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THE SPECTATOR

Coalition Considers Crackdown on Hard Alcohol

by Thomas Yarnell '10
News Editor

Hamilton College could soon be cracking down on the consumption of hard alcohol on campus. The Alcohol Coalition, a group composed of faculty, administrators and students, is currently debating the idea of recommending a ban on hard alcohol to the administration. Though the Coalition has not yet reached a consensus on the issue, if it ends up advocating a ban and the administration institutes such a rule, the College may forbid hard alcohol as early as next semester.

The Alcohol Coalition was appointed by President Joan Hinde Stewart in the fall of 2003 and charged with finding ways to reduce the negative effects of alcohol on the Hamilton community. The group serves only to advise and does not make or enact any policy, but there is precedent for it playing a significant role in policy changes.

In the spring of 2004, the idea for a point system was raised at the Adler Conference (a forum held annually to discuss issues important to the Hamilton community) and the Alcohol Coalition subsequently formed a subcommittee to further explore a proposal for this new judicial structure. In their report from March 2004, the Coalition recommended to the president that the College implement a point system.

The suggestion for a point system was, for the most part, a response to student feedback on alcohol-related issues. At the time, many students expressed frustration over the seemingly arbitrary nature of the judicial process for violations of College policy, and the point system was intended to clear up any confusion.

The Coalition has since been wrestling with the idea of a ban on hard alcohol for all students, including those over 21 years old, due in part to evidence that suggests that students inflict more self-harm with this type of substance than any other. According to Dean of Students and Alcohol Coalition member Nancy Thompson, of those students transported to the hospital for alcohol-related reasons, the overwhelming majority has reported using hard alcohol during at least part of their binge drinking incident.

PHOTO BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

The College could potentially ban all hard alcohol from campus, effective next school year.

Thompson emphasized that any policy change advised by the Alcohol Coalition is wholly in the interest of students' safety, and that a ban on hard alcohol is by no means the only option that the Coalition is considering.

"Students tend not to like changes that restrict their options. I understand that," Thompson said. "But at the same time, if there are dangerous things happening, we have to try to figure out a way to limit that."

Many students are convinced that, a ban on hard al

see *Alcohol Coalition, page 3*

Community Forum Fosters Discussion on Understanding

by Russ Doubleday '11
News Editor

Approximately 100 Hamilton students and faculty attended the Community Building Meeting to discuss ways to build a more inclusive and welcoming College community on Saturday, May 2. Mediators from Interfaith Works of Central New York led the program entitled "Building a Beloved Community."

Acting President Joseph Urgo opened the meeting with some thoughts concerning Hamilton. Every year, he explained, Admissions hand picks the incoming first year class with the intention of bringing in students with a wide range of perspectives from all over the country and the world. Together, these students must learn how to make a community together, and more importantly, how to be a community.

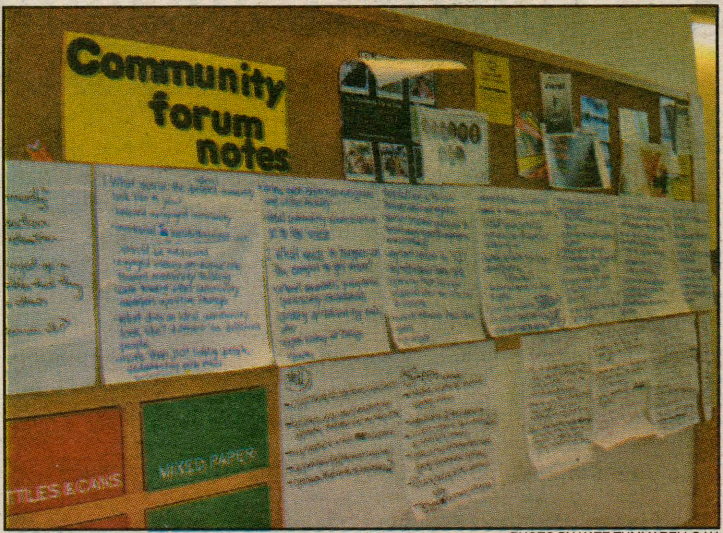

PHOTO BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

Notes from the meeting are posted in the KJ Commons.

Urgo concluded by saying that all the community members at Hamilton share the same goals, and that every one of us wants a more inclusive college community.

Jim Wiggins, the leader of the Interfaith Works team, spoke about the purpose of the meeting. The job of the mediators was to create relationships and understanding amongst people. He envisioned Hamilton developing what he called a "beloved community," even though the majority of participants in the meeting substituted the term "beloved" for "ideal" to eliminate the religious overtones.

Following these remarks, people were split up into several

see *Community Meeting, page 2*

INSIDE

OPINION: Allinger's Last Thumbs Up/Down 5
FEATURES: I'm On the Summer Wait List 7
A&E: Starving Artists: Senior Theatre 11
SPORTS: WLax Wins Liberty League 20

College Responds to Swine Flu Scare

by Rebecca Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

Al Ham is not the only pig striking fear into the hearts of the NESCAC anymore. Recently, the Swine Flu, also known as flu H1N1, has spread from Mexico to the United States and Canada, infecting hundreds. Though as of yet the virus appears to be no more severe than a normal flu, health officials all over the country, as well as concerned college administrators, are monitoring the situation closely in an effort to help prevent and treat outbreaks.

At this time, no incidents of swine flu have been reported at Hamilton, but there have been 90 cases reported in New York State, and two at fellow NESCAC school, Amherst. A number of groups on campus have been collaborating to prevent any possible outbreaks of H1N1 here on campus, including the administration, Bon Appétit, the Health Center, and the Hamilton Emergency Response Team (HERT).

"The good news is that the H1N1 virus does not seem to be spreading as rapidly nor is it as severe as health officials initially thought," said Meredith Harper Bonham, executive assistant to the president and chair of HERT. "And fortunately for Hamilton, the situation provided us with an opportunity to test and refine our response efforts, making us even better prepared for the future."

Director of Health Services Christine Merritt has been keeping in touch with county and state authorities to monitor the situation, and several all-campus e-mails have been sent out encouraging awareness of the flu and good sanitary practices that could help prevent sickness.

"Common sense hygiene can go a long way in mitigating the spread of the virus, which is why we have been emphasizing hand washing and cough etiquette in our communications with the Hamilton community," said Bonham.

In the event that a Hamilton student displays symptoms of Swine Flu, Hamilton has already created a plan to isolate that student and monitor their contact with others to prevent the disease from spreading. If a Hamilton employee shows signs of having Swine Flu, they will be told to stay home and not come to work.

Bon Appétit has also been doing its part to lessen the chances of a flu outbreak at Hamilton. According to Patrick Raynard, general manager of the Bon Appétit Managing Company, the campus food provider is adding more hand sanitizing units to their kitchens, and emphasizing more frequent

see *Swine Flu, page 3*

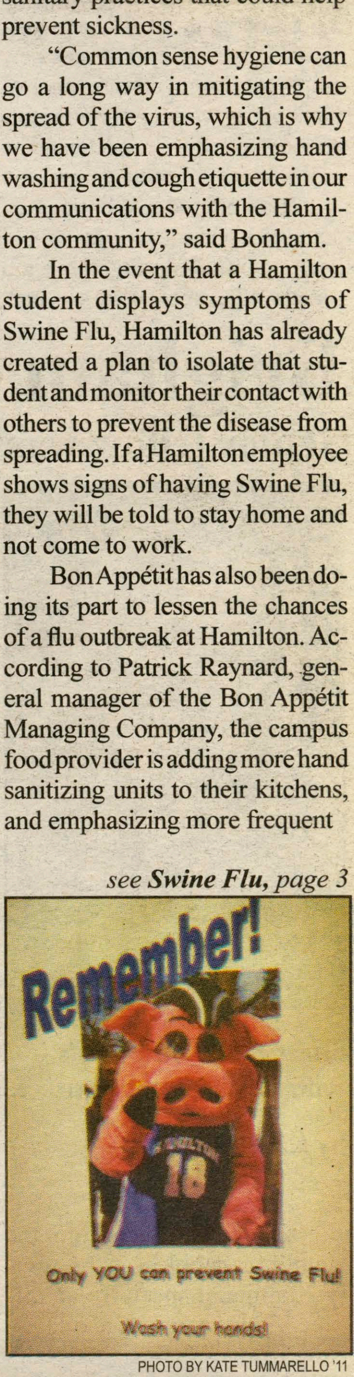
Remember!
18
Only YOU can prevent Swine Flu!
Wash your hands!

PHOTO BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

Seniors Enter "Real World" During Economic Recession

by Alicia Wright '10
News Writer

With the stock market and economy down, the stress level of seniors is rising more than ever. Now finishing a thesis is just another bullet point on the list of things to worry about as a graduating senior. Add searching for a job to the top of the list.

However, according to Director of the Career Center Kino Ruth, seniors are not in the sort of dire trouble with the job market that many might anticipate. While the job search has definitely changed this year, companies are still hiring. Students just have to work harder to find them, and, as Ruth emphasized, adjust their expectations.

Ruth, who works closely with students interested in a career in finance, admits that within the financial sector of the job market, the economy has taken its toll. Nonetheless, opportunities still exist for students interested in a career in finance.

"Reality is different than expectation for a lot of people," Ruth commented in regard to the job search. Whereas many Hamilton graduates tend to seek career opportunities in major metropolises like New York City and Boston, this year students need to consider different locations and different starting salaries. Rather than hoping for a position in an investment bank, an unlikely employer to seek new employees in the current economy, think about working for an insurance company in Connecticut. The key is to get experience now.

Ruth offered two basic characteristics seniors this year should keep in mind during their job search: adjustment and survival. Seniors need to adjust their expectations and realize that this year may not be the year they start a career with a six-figure income. What seniors need to do is focus on surviving the free-falling economy and work on climbing back up the cliff to success in the next year to 18 months.

This is where the experience comes. Gaining career-related experience in any way related to a career field of interest will help seniors steadily rise in their chosen field. Associate Director of the Career Center Leslie Bell noted that seniors are feeling that they can't be too picky with their job choices, and many students are accepting offers that may not be exactly what they originally wanted, but which they recognize are wise moves to make in the current economy.

As Bell pointed out, many recent graduates only remain in their entry-level job for a year to 18 months before they receive offers to work for other employers more suited to their career plans. Ruth dispels the myth that the first job must be perfect because it will be forever. By accepting a position not necessarily ideal but related to your career field and holding that job for at least a year is actually a recommended path after graduation.

Yuqi Mao '09 applied for several positions for work between graduation and hopefully going to medical school, but has received no feedback. He recognizes that the lack of response is due to the weak economy. During the year, Mao said that he had little time to actively seek a job when he knew that most employers would not respond to him.

Mao now plans to study for his MCAT and concentrate on applying to medical school. While he wishes that he had applied earlier to medical school programs and internships in hospitals, he noted that even if he continued into graduate school right after graduation, it would still cost a lot of money during a hard economic time. Mao does have some stress as to his life after Hamilton, because ideally he would be actively working on his career rather than waiting for opportunities. However, he recognizes that many of his classmates are in the same boat and that for now he might have to concentrate on other things, such as his hobby, writing.

Both Ruth and Bell said many Hamilton students graduate without any secure job position or graduate school program. Bell referenced that only a third of the graduating class has any set plan with an employer or graduate school at graduation. Ruth noted that senior year tends to be an extremely busy time for students, so sometimes the job search must wait until after graduation. It just means that this year it may take three to four months or more for graduates to find a job, and other options such as going straight to graduate school or simply taking some time off can be best for some students.

Ruth and Bell had noted that seniors are anxious about the job market, but neither expressed great concern that Hamilton seniors should worry about their future careers because of the weak economy. "Every year young alumni do just fine," Ruth said. It may take more time and seniors may end up working in jobs they didn't expect, but both Ruth and Bell are confident in the preparation Hamilton has instilled in its students for success.

InterFaith works

WWW.INTERFAITHWORKSCNY.ORG/

The group Interfaith works mediated the campus forum.

Community Meeting Promotes Inclusion

from ***Community Forum,*** *page 1*

discussion groups to come up with ideas for building a new community. Out of this, the general ideas that surfaced called for monthly "town hall" meetings and sensitivity training for faculty and administration. The group also discussed the possibly of adding an awareness program for students, either during New Student Orientation or sometime later in each student's college career.

Student Assembly President Amy Goldstein '11, who also spoke publicly at the beginning of the meeting with Urgo, will take the ideas from the meeting to Student Assembly. As she explained, "We want to promote the most inclusive environment possible and will be working closely with the administration to see that some of the recommendations that resulted from the small group meetings come to fruition.

"Additionally, we will continue our efforts through the ad hoc committee created to address the possibility of a statement of community values and welcome the participation of all students," said Goldstein. "The committee will continue to meet next fall and any recommendations or changes will hopefully be implemented by the conclusion of fall semester." The committee is specifically created to look into the creation of a official Social Honor Code.

Faculty members were well represented at the meeting after passing a resolution supporting the building of the Cultural Education Center and the creation of a Social Honor Code. "To my knowledge, this is the first time the faculty has spent the time to create such a resolution and to vote so overwhelmingly for it," explained Professor of English Naomi Guttman. "To me that indicates that the faculty are very supportive of the need for all students to feel safe and comfortable at Hamilton inside and outside of class."

Guttman was content with the ideas that came out of this weekend's meeting. "Although it was less than some had hoped for, I think it's a first step in the right direction," said Guttman. "We [as a community] are not going to agree on everything, but it's important to keep talking."

Brigham Receives USA Today Honorable Mention

Senior fellow was named to the All-USA College Academic Honorable Mention Team last week

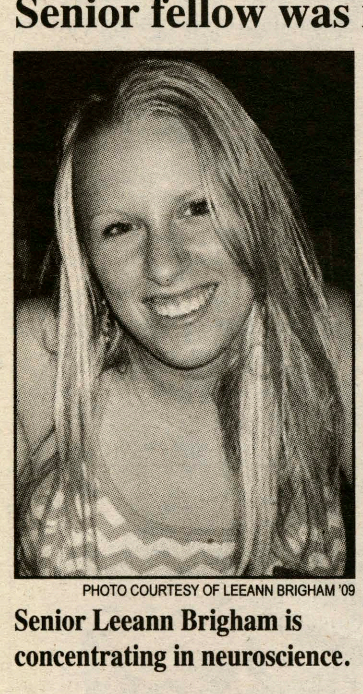

PHOTO COURTESY OF LEEANN BRIGHAM '09

Senior Leeann Brigham is concentrating in neuroscience.

by Kate Moore '12
News Writer

Academic life within the Hamilton bubble can be pretty limiting. Especially at this time of year, most students are caught up in classes, finals, and theses. The potential impact of our endeavors in the real world is often a faraway goal that is easy to lose sight of, but not for Leeann Brigham '09, who was recently named to the All-USA College Academic Honorable Mention Team by *USA Today*.

According to their website, each year *USA Today* recognizes students who "excel in scholarship and reach beyond the classroom to benefit society." Brigham, a neuroscience senior fellow, was awarded honorable mention for her study of schizophrenia in a rodent model.

She worked closely with Professors of Psychology Doug Weldon and Jen Borton on her senior project, "Free Radical Involvement in Cognitive Function and Parvalbumin Expression in an MK-801 Model of Schizophrenia." Brigham found that fish oil was able to prevent sensory gating deficits, which negatively affect one's ability to filter incoming information from the outside world. The fish oil interfered with cell death, which Brigham later postulated might occur in various regions of the brain or among different cell types.

"Despite extensive research efforts, schizophrenia remains poorly understood. A greater understanding of schizophrenia will improve the quality of life of the millions of affected patients and help relieve the economic burden to society," said Brigham.

> **"I'm really excited to be a recipient of this award. I think it's also a good reflection of all the doors that Hamilton has opened for me."**

Brigham first decided to major in neuroscience after taking the class Brain and Behavior on a whim. After graduation, she plans to work with Dr. Patrik Krieger of the neuroscience department at the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. She will spend six months studying the involvement of different neural circuits in a model of Parkinson's disease.

Beyond the realm of neuroscience, Brigham has been an active member of the Hamilton community. She has been a hooker for the women's rugby team and served on the team's Executive Board for the past four years. She is proud to have been with the team as it progressed and won several state titles, and describes her involvement with the team as a highlight of her time at Hamilton. In addition, Brigham has been a tutor at the Nesbitt-Johnston Writing Center for three years, as well as a psychology teaching assistant for the past two.

Brigham has also received numerous awards, including Psi Chi President, the Kellogg Essay Prize, and the Charles A. Dana Prize Scholarship. Her inclusion in the honorable mention team deserves a special place in the line-up.

"I'm really excited to be a recipient of this award. I think it's also a good reflection of all the doors that Hamilton has opened for me, not only through the Senior Fellowship program, but through the strength of the neuroscience curriculum and the Hamilton-affiliated internships that have enabled me to go on to post-graduate work in Sweden," said Brigham.

After her work in Sweden, Brigham will pursue an MD/PhD in neuroscience, and will no doubt prove to be an asset to that community, just as she has been to the College.

SA Update

Resolution Opposes Hard Alcohol Ban

by Eve Denton '12
Student Assembly Correspondent

Potential Ban on Hard Alcohol

An ongoing discussion has been occurring amongst members of the Alcohol Coalition since 2004 about the possibility of banning hard alcohol on campus. The committee does not make policies; they simply offer their advice to the administration based on statistics from surveys and EMT reports. They are currently close to advising that hard alcohol be banned, however they have not officially done so. There is still one more meeting this semester, and any changes made by the administration will be announced over the summer. The ban would affect everyone on campus, not just students under the age of 21.

Student Assembly members raised a wide variety of concerns over the enactment of a hard alcohol ban. Someone questioned how the ban would be enforced. The response was that it would be difficult to enforce except for in situations of parties being broken up. Various schools with hard alcohol bans were discussed, and several members with friends at these schools believe the ban has not been a solution to the binge drinking problem prominent on college campuses. In addition, Hamilton already has no line between school life and personal life since most activities happen on campus. This sort of ban would seem like an invasion of privacy. Members felt that a ban shifted this issue from being a personal one for those who consume too much alcohol to a campus-wide one in which people are stripped of the responsibility to make their own decisions.

In addition, some members contended the plan would backfire if a student stayed in their room drinking extremely heavily before going out for the evening, since they will be scared to leave the room with a water bottle of alcohol. Students may begin to feel uncomfortable drinking on campus, which could lead to an influx of students drinking downtown and then driving drunk. Some were concerned that it is contradictory to ban hard alcohol while at the same time signing the Amethyst Initiative, which encourages fixing the college drinking problem through other solutions.

Student Assembly concluded that it is important to give students the freedom to make their own decisions in order to better prepare us for the real world. The banning of hard alcohol would ultimately be the decision of the College's president. Student Assembly unanimously passed a resolution opposing a hard alcohol ban. The resolution suggested alternative measures such as increasing the number of points received for drinking hard alcohol under the age of 21 and for serving hard alcohol to those who are not of legal the age.

Gmail Switch

Hamilton's ITS department is considering switching the campus from the current Sun Java System to Google's Gmail. An ongoing focus group has been testing out the new Gmail system. Using Gmail would save the school thousands of dollars, and Gmail's storage capacities are essentially infinite. This switch would mean that e-mail would no longer be stored on campus, and it would be extremely difficult to track down deleted emails. Fortunately, Gmail's limitless storage space would hopefully mean that no e-mails would ever need to be deleted. Members raised concerns about e-mails possibly being lost, Gmail's filtering abilities and confidentiality. However, the overall consensus is that a switch to Gmail would be beneficial to the community.

Community Forum

Student Assembly discussed the Community Forum that took place on May 2. Most of the groups present at the talk agreed that Hamilton should have monthly meetings in which students, faculty, staff, and administration are invited to have an open dialogue. The possibility of changing the current advisor system was discussed. Changes raised included an advisor on campus whose job included facilitating diversity issues as they arise or assigning freshman to a core group of advisors who are trained to deal with problems similar to the ones that are currently issues on campus.

Committees

The Technology Committee announced that Hamilton will no longer provide anti-virus protection to students. However, it will be available online for free.

The Food Committee announced changes to the dining hours on Friday. Because of a campus-wide BBQ on the Dunham Quad from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Commons and McEwen will close at 10:30 a.m. Commons will reopen at 5 p.m. for dinner. In addition, Bon Appétit manager Patrick Raynard needs students who are on campus this summer to participate on a committee regarding food for next semester. Interested students should e-mail praynard@hamilton.edu.

Alcohol Coalition Exploring Measures to Promote Safety

*from **Coalition Considers,** page 1*

cohol would not have a positive effect on the campus, regardless of the good intentions behind it. Marty Connor '09, former co-president of the Inter-Society Council and former member of the Alcohol Coalition said, "I can't comment on the current logic of the Alcohol Coalition, but according to the collective logic of the Coalition last semester, we dismissed consideration of a hard alcohol ban due to its potential to drive dangerous drinking habits underground and out of sight."

Elaborating on this rationale, he said, "Give students unlimited access to booze, and, sooner or later, they'll drink themselves silly. Give students limited access to booze and they will drink themselves sick by binging behind closed doors."

The Coalition has been examining other schools that currently have bans on hard alcohol in place, such as Bowdoin College. While the group has found that bans at other schools could serve as a useful model for the new policy, it would most likely recommend that a ban at Hamilton be incorporated into the current point system.

The Alcohol Coalition will meet again before the end of this semester to further discuss the ban and the recently passed Student Assembly resolution that opposes it (see the Student Assembly Update for details).

Though membership on the Coalition is determined by appointment, Thompson said that the group and the administration are open to suggestions from all community members for how to reduce the negative effects of alcohol on Hamilton College.

WHO'S ON THE ALCOHOL COALITION?

The Alcohol Coalition is currently chaired by Associate Dean of Students for Academics Karen Brewer and includes Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, Assistant Dean of Students Jeffrey Landry, Director of Residential Life Travis Hill, Professor of Mathematics Richard Bedient, Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli '96, Director of Campus Safety Francis Manfredo and alumnus A. Barret Seaman '67.

Student presence on the Coalition includes Inter-Society Council President Brian Mizoguchi '11, Student Assembly President Amy Goldstein '11, Student Assembly Vice President Edwin Gaston '11, and Resident Advisor Tristan Rios '10, among others.

Task Force Releases CEC Report

by Daniel Steinman '12
News Writer

Hamilton is one step closer to the realization of a Cultural Education Center (CEC). On May 7, Acting President Joe Urgo will be receiving a report from the task force appointed to assess students' needs within such a space. This past Monday, the task force held its last open meeting.

Professor of Africana Studies Angel Nieves, a faculty member on the task force, gave an overview of essential spatial requirements the committee has surmised through discussions with students over five weeks of open meetings. These findings will be laid out in the report, which Hamilton students should also receive by e-mail tomorrow.

Involved students have provided a consensus view that a CEC should be established near the center of the campus so it would be accessible to all students. Preferably, the site would allow for the possibility of further expansion. They have also emphasized the need for a large gathering space in which cultural organizations on campus could house events and hold large meetings of 50 or more people. Inclusion of a full kitchen would be important to enable preparation for such events. Storage space for necessary event items, such as chairs, would be a requisite as well.

Many also said the CEC should contain a seminar room for smaller meetings of 12 or more students, as well as a small computer lab with perhaps five or six stations. The students said that the CEC would also need to allocate office space for those who would hold professional leadership positions at the Center. Providing storage space for student organizations' individual needs will probably not be part of the CEC plan.

Many steps remain in the creation of a center. "We are making the recommendation that a second task force be formed quickly to [discuss] programming issues," said Nieves

As part of the committee, Nieves expressed his appreciation for the level of openness and transparency Hamilton has allowed in the planning of an issue that could significantly impact the College's future. He claimed that at universities where he has worked in the past, students would not have been included in this kind of planning to such a degree.

Nieves remarked that all parties involved in the process prioritized the students in discussions. "The common goal was to reinforce the importance of the CEC and how important it is to find the space, not in the distant future, but in the next six months," he said.

A student on the task force, Denise Ghartley '12 said, "We can only emphasize so much that we think the next task force should be formed quickly." As an uneasy student, Ghartley wants members of the student body to continue pushing for the creation of a CEC since the committee sending the report does not guarantee any subsequent action by the Board of Trustees or the administration. "Even after we send the report, I encourage students to send follow-up e-mails to Joe Urgo. I want to emphasize that nothing is set in stone," she said.

Campus Plans for Swine Flu

*from **College Responds,** page 1*

glove changing and proper hand washing practices for employees. All Bon Appétit employees are being retrained on "preventing the spread of illness at work."

Concern about the Swine Flu is high as many colleges around the country prepare for commencement activities to take place within the next few weeks. Friends and family will be flying to graduation ceremonies from all over the country and internationally, which will provide an environment conducive to the proliferation of H1N1. In anticipation of this problem, Williams College has already cancelled buffets, and the president of Northeastern University did not shake hands with graduates and attendees at last weekend's ceremony.

Hamilton has no plans to significantly change commencement activities and President Joan Hinde Stewart, who is returning from sabbatical to preside over graduation ceremonies, will be shaking hands with anyone who would like to do so. Although Hamilton is planning on having plenty of hand sanitizer available at large events like Class and Charter Day and Commencement, most everything will carry on as planned.

THE SPECTATOR EDITORIAL

Keep Community Apathy a Thing of the Past

This college has seen a lot of change during this past semester; from a new Acting President, to the Mexican party controversy, the full NESCAC announcement and the cancellation of G-Road, the campus has certainly been abuzz.

It has been our pleasure at *The Spectator* to be able to provide an accurate and informative record of Hamilton's evolution over the last four months. But more than that, you, the community, have allowed us to play an important role in the community-wide discussion about these events. Many of the issues we have faced on campus have not provided problems with simply yes or no answers, but students and faculty alike have taken the time to delve into these nuanced issues and provide nuanced responses.

After the Mexican night party controversy, we received several hundred responses to our survey and three times the number of letters to the editor than we were able to fit into two full pages. The most impressive thing about the response to this event was not the sheer number of submissions, but the breadth of opinions covered and depth of thought devoted to the issue.

People are often quick to judge college students of our generation, saying that we simply don't care about anything as much as they did "back in the day." However, I think we, as a student body, have made long strides to show that just simply isn't the case. Even those students who "don't care" seem to have made themselves aware of the situation and are *actively* not caring.

Beyond simply discussing, students this semester have taken the initiative to work to see the changes that they are calling for. From a Community Dialogue forum to concerts on Class and Charter Day, most of the changes we have observed here on the Hill this semester are the result of actions that have been taken by the students. Nothing can be accomplished without the contributions of dedicated and determined students. Regardless of whether or not you agree with certain agendas that have been advanced, the attempts by many members of the student body to change conditions at Hamilton for the better should be, and have been, respected.

As well, there appears to be a significantly increased awareness of student concerns among members of the faculty and administration. The effort and consideration that these individuals have put in to improving life on the Hill should be appreciated and applauded. The fact that we attend an institution filled with people so concerned with the experiences of students is something we often take for granted.

To those of you who have made these attempts for the betterment of our community, thank you. Thank you for caring, and please don't stop. The return to the Hill in the fall may seem like a lifetime from now, but the issues we are facing today will be here waiting when we return. Take the momentum we have developed over the past four months and continue to work to develop and strengthen the community many of us call home.

Thank you!

To the Seniors of the Spectator staff - thank you for everything. It is impossible to put into words how much you have done for this staff. Your hard work and dedication over the last four years have played an invaluable role in making the paper what it is today - you will surely be missed! Good luck in your endeavors off of the Hill and remember to keep in touch!

twitter

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Be sure to look for previews of upcoming articles, as well as opportunities to write on topics that interest you.

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Diversity Discourse

Tolerance Course Would Be Needless

by Kate Tummarello '11
MANAGING EDITOR

The most important lessons we learn in college aren't taught in our classes. It is our interactions with each other that we will take with us when we graduate.

Some argue that all Hamilton graduates should have an appreciation for diversity and that there should be a required class to enable this appreciation. I dare to disagree.

There are many concepts that some would argue Hamilton students should learn to embrace before graduation. Ideally, every student should graduate from Hamilton with a fully developed political awareness. As educated, potentially active members of our society, every Hamilton student should gain an understanding of our nation's political systems and beliefs and our role in the global political sphere.

However, Hamilton requires no such government class. It is expected that through our extracurricular interactions with students, staff and faculty members, we can learn the implications of current events and to understand belief systems other than our own.

Similarly, every Hamilton student should graduate with an awareness of environmental concerns. The importance of recycling extends far beyond the Hill, and most people, HEAG member or not, would agree. Still, there is no curriculum requirement that forces students to take an environmental studies course. Are these issues less important?

Of course not. However, we learn about things like this from interacting with other intelligent and aware members of our community.

The list of lessons Hamilton students should learn goes on and on. It would be impossible for the College to require that every student take a class to teach us all of these things. Instead, the responsibility falls on the students to learn as much as we can from every aspect of our college experiences, especially interacting with those who approach things from a different perspective.

A "diversity appreciation" requirement will not solve Hamilton's problems. If anything, it will make the majority of the student body grow to resent the requirement. Instead, we, as a community, need an eagerness to share with and learn from those who think differently than we do. Don't understand the views of the Womyn's Center? Go to their meetings. Disagree with the College Republicans? Talk to their members.

Every student, of every background, with every point of view, must both listen and be listened to. If we want a true and lasting change here at Hamilton, it must be led and supported by the student body, not focused around a curriculum change.

From a Senior Perspective

The Top 10 Lessons We've Learned as Hamilton Students

by Lindsey Wong '09 and Emily Chapin '09
MIND YOUR MANNERS COLUMNISTS

10. Yeah, five months of winter sucks, but take some time to embrace the winter wonderland. Build a snow fort! Have a snowball fight. Make a snowman. The snow is also another reason to go abroad (refer to #5).

9. Be polite and appreciative of the Bon Appetit staff. Not only is it common courtesy, but they are the ones who can get you raw eggs to bake a cake and let you in when you lost your card.

8. Nobody really likes the "Hamilton cool." It's hard to branch out after freshman year, so be friendly to people around campus; even just a smile is enough to make the Hill a better place.

7. Go do something you've never done before at least once. Try out the climbing wall. Go play nine holes. See an interpretive dance performance. Take a yoga class. These are opportunities you may never have again… not only that, but they're free!

6. You may not enjoy the smell of cow dung in the morning, but try taking a walk just off campus and check out the area you will end up spending four years (or more) living in. Go down the hill to the swimming hole, walk the G Road loop, or drive up to Skyline to watch the sun set.

5. Go abroad for at least one semester. You may love Hamilton now, but by your third year, you will want a break. It's a great way to rejuvenate before senior year and get a little taste of the world outside the bubble on the Hill.

4. Get to know your professors. They have a lot to offer both in and out of the classroom. Other than being a great resource for letters of recommendation, they know way more about life, careers, and how to succeed than you may see in lecture. Plus, believe it or not, they were our age once too.

3. Embrace all the Hamilton traditions. They may sound outdated, silly, or stupid, but the long history of the College and the continuation of these customs is what makes Hamilton special. Besides, where else is it acceptable to wake up at 6 a.m. to start drinking???

2. Stay up all night, SOBER, with your friends, just for fun. Try to make it to the 7 a.m. opening of commons. Maybe it's just the moonlight, but something magical happens when you should be sleeping.

1. Stop stealing chairs from my table in Commons without asking. Stop putting four-inch sandwiches on the grill when I already have a quesadilla cooking. And you're still messing with the toasters… We're always watching!!!

As we wrap up our time at Hamilton, we have come to realize we learned a lot. These 10 lessons don't even begin to touch upon the lessons Hamilton teaches you. Good luck with finals and enjoy what time you have left on the Hill!!

Order in the Court: the Honor Code

by Jason Mariasis '12
Opinion Contributor

We supposedly have an honor code here on campus, but I'm starting to question whether that is actually true. When deciding to come to Hamilton, we made a commitment to abide by the Honor Code, which, in my opinion, plays a huge role on campus and is an integral part of who we are and what we stand for. Without the prevalence of the philosophy and reality of the honor code, Hamilton would be a very different place. I'm now concerned that we, as the Hamilton community, are losing track of the honor code and are even losing a sense of basic trust with other people.

A Hamilton senior created the honor code in 1908, and it was eventually voted into existence by the entire student body in 1912. As the College website states, "Since [1912] the Honor Code has developed into one of the most respected institutions at Hamilton, promoting a rare form of trust between students and faculty as well as binding sense of integrity and responsibility among fellow students…the Hamilton Honor Code remains a source of pride for all those associated with the college."

About a month ago, I began to feel that the Honor Code is no longer fully a part of our community and that it is no longer cherished by some students and faculty. Before an economics exam, the professor told the class to put all backpacks and coats up front and that only basic calculators were allowed (as opposed to graphing or programmable ones). After the test, I had a short talk with him about why graphing calculators were not allowed and why he did not trust us with our bags and coats. He said it was department policy and he simply had to abide by it.

Many other students in the class were upset as well by the breach of trust that took place, and interestingly enough, many brought that trust topic up to me in conversation when discussing the exam afterwards, without my even mentioning it. It was not only I who was upset; it was a significant portion of the class. That showed me that the Honor Code is greatly valued by the majority of students.

At that point, I contacted Professor Stephen Wu, chair of the Economics Department, to ask him about the department's policy and why it was instituted.

"We have had a fair number of students complaining about other students cheating during tests and they have often asked us to monitor exams and be tighter about ensuring cheating does not take place," said Wu.

While that policy was a response to requests from students worried about cheating, the response directly contradicts the essence of the Honor Code on campus.

Interestingly enough, other departments do not seem to have a cheating problem, or they simply do not acknowledge that a problem exists. The Biology Department, for example, trusts students with take home exams. The Mathematics Department does not proctor tests and will even let a student take a test wherever he or she would like.

So which departments are doing the right thing? Should departments be concerned about cheating like the Economics Department is? After all, honest students raised the issue and the professors are

see ***Trust,*** *page 6*

Thumbs up

Who is the Jackie Robinson of the Streaking Team?

Janitor gifts: I'll make sure to puke "thank you" on the walls on Class and Charter Day.

Late night snack in the library: Come and enjoy some energy-boosting refreshments with the frightening homeless people who have taken up residence in the library basement.

Skinny-dipping in KJ water feature: Pretty cold in there, huh boys?

Faculty evaluations: Long and tedious, but the big green "COMPLETED" I got at the end is the best grade I've gotten all year.

Thumbs down

The trees that smell like fermented horse cum.

If the first thing you thought was, "Ewwww, how do you know what fermented horse cum smells like?" then you can go to hell because that was a really f***ed up time in my life and it's none of your business.

The recession hits Hamilton: How am I supposed to survive on two lobster bakes a year?

"Comical" Al Ham image that preaches swine flu prevention, trivializing the dozens that have already died: I'll buy the candles.

Who cares?

Hamtrek: I honestly believe that I have a better chance of getting EMT'd trying to bike for nine miles than taking twenty shots throughout the day.

Next time a pack of hippies block the outside of KJ with their dank artwork I'm going to curb stomp them with my carbon footprint.

C&C Day awards ceremony: Trust me, God does not want me to stop in the Chapel by the time 12:15 rolls around.

Hard alcohol ban: Exactly the same as the marijuana ban.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09 & Matt Fellows '09

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

What's in our Mailbox Today?

To the Editor:

In last week's Spectator, I found the Spectator Between the Sheets' response to a question highly offensive, dead-wrong, and anti-feminist. A non-virgin student felt pressure from his/her current boyfriend to have sex, feeling that he/she was "not really ready yet," and asked "Should I just give it up and stop being a prude?" The columnist answered that while both students had reasonable wishes, probably the best solution was finding a comfortable stopping point before "humping." I have three main areas of concern with the columnist's response.

First, she dismissed the idea that "if he doesn't respect you and your wishes then he doesn't deserve you" as impractical in the real world. What!?!?!?! If a person doesn't want to have sex, then they shouldn't have sex! End of story. When someone doesn't respect your wishes on such a personal issue, then that person is clearly not a true friend or romantic partner. With all the pressure people receive from popular culture, they can't afford to surround themselves with friends and boyfriends/girlfriends who can't accept them for who they are. It's hard to end these relationships, but eventually people are better off.

The columnist also said that "there's nothing wrong with withholding sex," a phrase that denigrates abstinence as a valid lifestyle choice. "Withholding" implies that sex in a relationship is the correct or appropriate state of affairs, and when you refrain from sex you are unnatural. While clearly sex is acceptable between consenting adults, it is not a requirement for a relationship. Isn't feminism about empowering women? Many of the Between the Sheets' articles lead readers to the conclusion that a modern woman should behave like a stereotypical caricature of a sex-crazed man. A true feminist supports any person, female or not, in their choices.

Finally, it was disturbing when the columnist claimed that blowjobs and handjobs are examples of "sex-free" or "sex-lite" activities. While a handjob is questionable to some, I think everyone would agree that placing your mouth over a penis or vagina constitutes a true sex act. Hence the name oral SEX. The idea that oral sex is not sex is disturbing when found among under-educated adolescents (or a U.S. President), but when a Hamilton senior makes these claims I start to worry about the quality education we're receiving. Aren't we supposed to be learning how to think intelligently?

Concerned, non-Womyn's Center, student:

Patrick Landers '12

To the Editor:

I'm not totally sure about the rest of the Hamilton community, professors and students alike, but I am extremely weary of hearing discussion go on and on regarding the racist nature of our campus and the pretentious discourse that accompanies it. To begin, I suppose I should clarify. Yes, racial issues are present here, but they are mostly limited to an accidental word or phrase, and maybe even just different concepts of what is acceptable and what is not. There is nothing extreme, nothing concerning, and definitely nothing dangerous about race relations on campus. If anything, the most counterproductive action we can take here at Hamilton is already being done by the "community building meeting" and other events like it, where a relatively nonexistent issue is boiled and stewed over so furiously that it is the very cause of tension and discord. The root of this issue is at the hands of those trying to "solve" it, alarmists who create racial tension where it is not even present.

The very fact that this is such a big issue on campus right now is embarrassing, and even a little offensive. Why doesn't everyone take a step back and actually see what is going on? There is a campus full of highly educated students who have nothing else to do in a small town in upstate New York, and the solution to their ennui seems to be taking up the banner of anti-racism. It is just a continuation of the White Man's Burden; on our overwhelmingly white campus many seem to believe it is our responsibility to take care of and speak for minorities because they are otherwise unable to do so. How many people really care? How many people just enjoy the culture, and feeling like they're actually accomplishing something.

Which brings me to my next point; most people don't actually care. A lot of the discourse is just self gratifying masturbatory talk, so elitist students can feel more enlightened and educated than other people, that they understand race relations and are leading the community, and the common folk are below them because of it. Why not buy indulgences, it works just as well. So why not actually solve the problem? All this discourse is an enormous excuse. People who are involved with this "community building" just took the easy way out, the definition of inaction. We've sat around for weeks talking, doing nothing. As a result, the students involved feel as though they've done their job and fought racism without actually accomplishing anything. As far as I'm concerned, a bunch of students idly discussing how superior their conceptualizations of abstract ideas about race are, while actually doing nothing to address the issue is nothing but pretentious. Why don't we actually take some responsibility? Be respectful, and demand respect from others. Problem solved.
- Steven Saurbier 2012

In response to the article "Does Facebook Affect Your GPA?" by Yinghan Ding '12, I'd like to say one thing. Correlations do not imply causation.

Thank you,
Rebecca Ashby '09

Step Out of the Box

Intellectual Diversity Matters Too

by Brandon Moore '12
Opinion Contributor

The concept of a "community building meeting" is flawed in both theory .and practice. Though it is certainly well-intentioned, I can't help but see it as an unfortunate misallocation of time and effort by all those who attended.

First and foremost, the audience consists only of those who are already concerned with raising respect and appreciation for diversity. Where are the "bigoted" people who are the ones truly in need of such a meeting? They are the last people that would be seen at the community building meeting and for this reason it is incapable of accomplishing the one goal it prioritizes.

> **"I implore us to realize of the lack of the most fundamental kind of diversity on this campus: the diversity of thought."**

When you get a bunch of Hamilton community members together to improve the level of diversity appreciation at Hamilton, you are actively ignoring the fact the we are already one of most respectful institutions in existence. If one truly wishes to dismantle intolerance and racism, then participate in an ASB trip to Louisiana or Texas. These are places experiencing real problems with racism, and it affects real lives. As stated by one of the admirable members of Hamilton's own faculty, "The best means to reduce intolerance is through service."

I wholeheartedly recognize the intentions of this community building meeting, but I can't help but see it as mere talk (again, only between the people who are already strongly pro-diversity and acceptance.) Action or dedicated service in the places where intolerance truly exist is the only effective way to combat racism. We need to abandon our elitist perspective that we are the ones assaulted by the blows of intolerance when there are people truly suffering, physically. Mere dialogue accomplishes nothing.

Finally, I implore us to realize the lack of the most fundamental kind of diversity on this campus: the diversity of thought. We can all certainly agree that Hamilton is an intellectual, academic institution. This is the reason for its existence. However, thought on campus is suffocated by an overwhelming left-wing bias. I am not just speaking of the student body; faculty is just as guilty.

If Hamilton wishes to claim to be a diverse institution for the exchange of ideas, then why is it that we abandon intellectual diversity? I can't express the damage that is done by our mindless acceptance of the liberal bias that Hamilton so disconcertingly applies to its academics. If there is one thing that should not be uniform and standardized, it must be thought. We are, above all else, a college and must respect the foremost mission that accompanies that title.

Trust and Honor Code Need to be Self-Enforced

*from **Order**, page 5*

to be responsible. Or, should departments trust students as the Biology and Mathematics Departments do?

Hamilton either has an Honor Code or it does not. It must be fully realized, with no discrepancies across departments. To me, the full trust represented by the Honor Code is a must and is something that attracted me to this school from the very beginning. Honesty is trusted and respected here. If we lose this value, the environment, culture and character on this campus will be negatively altered. The Honor Code and this trusting atmosphere shape who we are and how we think. We as a community cannot have an environment that is controlled and restricted by a dishonest minority, when it is honest students who make up the majority. The latter group should not be punished for the shortcomings of the former.

With that said, cheating is unfair to those students who actually do their work and honestly earn their grades. I would, therefore, call upon the student body to change the punishment for cheating.

Currently, as stated in the Honor Code, "such dishonesty will often result in removal from the course, assignment of an XF for the course, or separation from the College community, or some combination of these." I think if a student is caught cheating, in any sense of the word, and it is proven that his intent was to cheat, he should be unquestionably expelled from our honest community at Hamilton College after the first offense. Because we are intellectual, moral and mature adults, this punishment should make each and every student in the cheating minority understand the value the student body places on trust and honesty. That should make each and every student in the cheating minority understand the importance of trust and honesty here on campus like the rest of us do.

Each of you, as students, also need to make a commitment to enforce the Honor Code if it is indeed important. Professor Peter Rabinowitz, a member of the Honor Court and professor of Comparative Literature, pointed out that the Honor Code system only works if we as students "police" ourselves. He mentioned that the students who cheat are injuring other students but those other students don't report cheaters.

Additionally, Wu stated that, "While I think the idea of the Honor Code is good, its success really hinges on students being willing to enforce it with each other." Ideal situations are preferable where no one would cheat, but unfortunately, there are realities. Perhaps there is a trust spectrum, where neither full trust nor distrust is present, since a perfect system is not possible.

But if we did not have full trust in each other, the Hamilton environment would negatively change since people would consider it distrusting. We need to keep integrity and moral values in our community since we have seen what the world becomes without them.

The Honor Code and a trusting environment are essential to what Hamilton stands for and is all about. Many students believe trust is a crucial component of their education. We as a community either live by the honor code or we don't, but we must make that choice so each department can follow accordingly. We must be cautious in our decision. If we lose the Honor Code, we will fully lose trust, and if we lose trust, we will lose our character. We will lose us. We will lose Hamilton.

What's Growing On... at the Community Farm

by Katrina Rabeler '12
Features Writer

"This looks good," exclaimed Chris Sullivan '09 as he examined a shovel of earth he heaped up from the farm. One thing farming teaches is a great fascination for icky brown stuff. "It's a lot better than last year," he said as he explained. Good soil has a dark-colored, light structure as opposed to the dense clay found in Hamilton soil that hasn't been tilled and cultivated recently. In a farm, you should add organic matter to the soil every year to improve its quality.

While professors are assigning eight page papers, thesis revisions and hair-raising finals, the Hamilton Community Farm is also demanding more of students than usual. Now is the time for manure spreading, rototilling and transplanting, and students are hard at work making it happen.

I spent Tuesday morning with Sullivan and Nate House '12, shoveling manure into wheelbarrows and spreading it throughout the three fourths acre farm behind the Wolcott Co-Op.

The manure acts as a fertilizer for plants and consists of the two most important ingredients they need to grow: carbon, from wood chips in the fertilizer, and nitrogen, which is supplied by horse poop. The 65 cubic yard heap of manure is quite impressive sitting in the middle of the farm. At $10 per yard, Sullivan explained that "this is valuable sh**."

Shoveling the sh** around is not easy work; athletes lifting weights in the pristine gym should especially enter the real world and try out a different form of workout–one that gives you a buff physique and goes to good use. All students are encouraged to lend a hand and learn the reason why our ancestors never needed a Bowflex.

Ideally, spinach, peas, swiss chard and other brassicas would already be planted since these plants can withstand a light frost. Unfortunately, school keeps getting in the way of the farm. Plans are for all of the frost-withstanding plants to be outside before next week. Other plants will be put outside at the end of May, after the threat of frost is over.

Tuesday afternoon I experienced the indoor aspect of farm production. The greenhouse on the Science Center third floor was bustling with activity as 10 people worked to transplant eggplant and peppers into larger containers.

Last Friday, tomatoes were transplanted. Some of the tomatoes are over eight inches tall and are so large that they already have to be transplanted again. The greenhouse is now so full of green that there is not enough space to house all the plants. Many have already been moved to the Co-Op porch, and there was another cart of plants ready to be rolled down as well.

Another goal includes putting up chicken wire-like stuff around the farm's fence to keep out rabbits and smaller rodents. "There's a lot to move. A lot to do," House said. The farm workers said they can use all the help they can get. As Linnaea Chapman '10 explained, "It's a really nice and productive study break. You get to be outside in the sun with friends while getting a little exercise."

To convince students to help out, House and Sullivan thought they might replace the Class and Charter Day slip and slide with "shovel sh** and spread."

"It'd be a drinking game: you get one Utica Club for every wheelbarrow of manure you fill and spread. Everyone should stop by," Sullivan encouraged.

What's Currently Growing Inside:
Leeks, onions, tomatoes, shallots, asparagus, eggplant, okra, kale, broccoli, parsley, brussels sprouts, kohlrabi, collards, cabbage, cilantro, cauliflower, celery basil, lettuce, swiss chard, cucumbers, chamomile spearmint, peppers, eggplant.

What's Left to Plant:
Cucumbers, squash, some flowers

What's Currently Growing Outside:
-The garlic that was planted in the fall is poking up. It will be ready to harvest in mid-summer.
-Leeks from last year that were never harvested.
-Delicious wild asparagus are also showing their faces in the farm. House explained that asparagus don't always look so lonely but eventually grow into patches as the years progress. "Asparagus are like a child. You have to let it mature," House said.
-Clover

A Closer Look: *I'm on the Summer Waitlist*

by Lily Gillespie '12
Features Writer

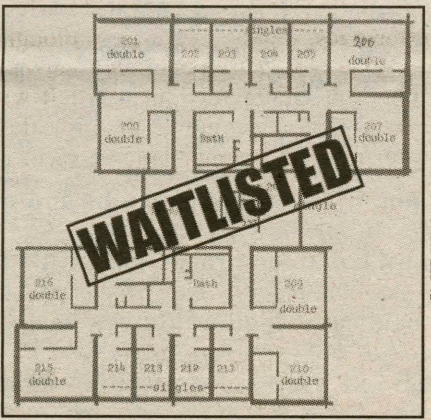

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NORA GRENFELL '12

A little over a week ago, the campus was abuzz with the excitement of the Housing Lottery. Plans were made, friends were pulled and tension mounted. The day of the Lottery arrived, and while those with low numbers were able to breathe easy, those of us in the far reaches of the number scale were not so fortunate.

Although most first years, and certainly the vast majority of upperclassmen, walked away from the lottery, if not satisfied, then at least housed, there remained a small group of us who seem to be stuck in limbo, also known as the Summer Housing Waitlist. I happen to be one of those people, so for those of you, however few of you there may be, I understand, and I feel your pain.

When I told people of my fate, they were all supportive, reassuring me that I would absolutely get housing and that it would probably be good. This was also Residential Life staff member Pat Marino's message to the 30 or so of us still waiting in the Barn at the end of the evening on Lottery day. While the majority of you may never have to experience the waiting game that is the Summer Housing Waitlist, I will explain it so that you may be sympathetic to friends who may not have been so lucky.

Each year, Hamilton admits about 2,000 students with the expectation that about 460 will put down a deposit come May 1. However, in order to ensure that there would be enough beds for all the incoming first years should more than the anticipated number accept, 500 beds are left open for the incoming class. What, you ask now, would happen to all those poor people on the Summer Housing Waitlist if all the beds were to be filled? Well, as explained to us by Marino, the College will do whatever it must to guarantee housing for everyone, even if that means making available buildings that may not have been used for housing before.

This article is by no means a way of suggesting that this happens to a lot of people; in fact, when I told our very own Features Editor Lauren Moon '10 of my status, her response was, "I've always wanted to meet one of you people!" It is an unfortunate situation, primarily because while others revel in their success at finding a place to live and make plans with friends for next year, those on the Summer Housing Waitlist must do just that: wait. However, not to fret my fellow waitlisters, for I am sure we will be well cared for.

Davis Projects for Peace: Sophomores Receive Grant to Pursue Additional Research in Tanzania

by Hadley Keller '12
Features Writer

The goal of the Davis Projects for Peace, according to founder Kathryn Wasserman Davis, is to "help young people launch some immediate initiatives…that will bring new thinking to the prospects of peace in the world." Davis founded the program in 2007 with the purpose of encouraging college students across the country to create grassroots projects committed to creating and preserving peace. After the great success of the programs established in 2007, she agreed to continue funding projects in the summers since then. As the Hamilton recipients of the Davis grant of $10,000, Laura Gault '11 and Caroline Davis '11 hope to perpetuate peace in their own creative way.

DAVIS
Projects for Peace

WWW.UNC.EDU

Davis and Gault went through a long application process to receive the Davis grant, which included an in-depth written proposal and an interview. The entire process lasted nearly four months, and the girls are certainly ready to get started on their project.

Both students are currently enrolled in a Tanzania field study class here at Hamilton and will travel with their class and Professor Marla Jaksch to Tanzania at the end of May for a five-week field study period. After the rest of the class departs, Davis and Gault will stay in Tanzania to take on their Davis project. They hope to be able to use their initial time in Tanzania with their class to become accustomed to the lifestyles of the native people, so that they may be successful in working alongside them.

Davis and Gault want to work with the Hadzabe people. Native to Western Tanzania, the Hadzabe are sometimes nomadic, but Davis and Gault will be working in a sedentary community. They chose to work with the Hadzabe because this group has been trying to initiate a project for themselves but did not have the funding necessary to make it a success. Since they are hunter-gatherers, and obtain anything else they need through trade with neighboring indigenous groups such as the Barabaig, the Hadzabe have no cash currency. This becomes a problem when the issue of healthcare arises, as hospitals in modern Tanzania have begun to require cash.

Davis and Gault aim to team up with the Hadzabe people to attack this problem through artwork. Their goal is to "develop a sustainable beadwork project with the Hadzabe in order to cover necessary healthcare expenses," as the two clarify in their project proposal. As an initial investment, Davis and Gault will use their grant money to purchase a large quantity of plastic beads for jewelry making and will also incorporate handmade beads from materials native to the region.

One obstacle the project has encountered thus far is the current draught in Tanzania, which makes the original plan of creating clay beads much more difficult. Gault and Davis would not be deterred, however, and they have modified their original plan to use porcupine quills and tuber plants to create beads which will, no doubt, be equally attractive and effective.

The duo has also been successful in raising additional funds with their Tanzania field study class for other organizations in Tanzania with whom they may be working this summer. The class organized "Karibu," a night of East African food, music and artwork. The name for the fundraiser means "welcome" in Kiswahili, and it was certainly a great success – nearly 100 guests showed up to support the class' endeavors.

It looks like Davis, Gault and the rest of their class will certainly be making a difference in Tanzania. To learn more about the Tanzania field study class and their trip, visit Gault's blog at wmst332tanzania.wordpress.com. To learn more about the Davis Project for Peace, visit www.kwd100projectsforpeace.org/projects.php?type=PFP.

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Alice Dannenberg

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICE DANNENBERG '11

Hometown:
Atlanta, GA

Major:
Psychology

Turn On:
Chivalry

Turn Off: *RD Eisenhart '11*

What is your worst habit?
Late Night Diner B.

If you were a Hamilton College dorm which would you be and why?
Rogers, because all the frat boys want in.

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, who would you pick and why?
My voice is like a combination of Fergie and Jesus.

If you were god, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
Make lettuce taste like chocolate cake and dressing taste like frosting.

What's the first word you just though of?
Whispering Eye.

If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
Peeing on peoples' floors.

What advertising slogan best describes your life?
"It takes a tough man to make a tender chicken."- Perdue

If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
Ben and Jerry's already has Free Cone Day.

What movie genre best describes you?
Musical.

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
"Your body is a wonderland, and I want to be Alice."

If you were a Hamilton major which would you be and why?
Economics, because all the boys would declare me.

If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?
No cold cuts, I'm all natural.

If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
The Midas Touch.

If you were any Hamilton social space what would it be and why?
The Events Barn: classy and appreciated.

If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
Psi Chi: one less clique to be inevitably excluded from.

If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?
*Knit Happens: 'cause sh*t happens.*

What would you say is your most attractive quality?
My southern charm.

What is your favorite physical feature?
I wear size 10 shoes. You know what they say, big feet, big...

If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
Marge- Everyone would love me.

If you could break one rule at Hamilton for a day and get away with it which would you choose?
Whatever the rule is that says I can't date my crew coach.

What accessory best defines you?
A large bucket of Chicken n' Biscuits from Bojangles.

What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs up?
The crew team: We like to do it with two, four, sometimes even eight people.

What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs down?
Pepsi, not Coke.

Who would you say is your campus crush?
Sam Hincks '11.

Who would you say is your faculty crush?
Kelly Landry.

What's the weirdest thing currently in your room?
Virginia Slattery '12.

Luvuyo (Izekzek Ziki Nchuknchuk) Mandela '09

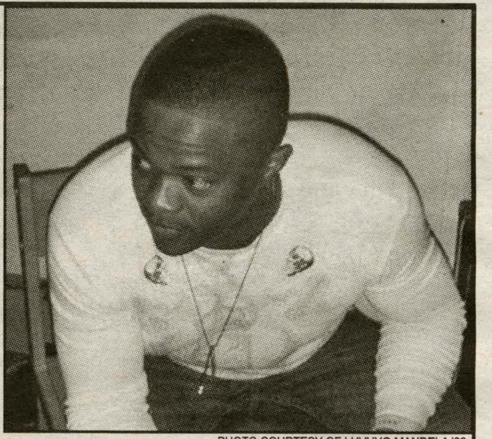

PHOTO COURTESY OF LUVUYO MANDELA '09

Hometown: *Durban, South Africa*

Major: *Double Major in Philosophy and Life*

Turn On? *Rita Tran '09*

Turn Off? *Ramunas Rozgys '09 and Byron Johnson '09*

What is your worst habit?
O.C.D.: It makes for a long paper-writing process.

If you were a dorm which would you be and why?
The second and fourth floors of North. Now let's think for a sec...

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, who would you pick and why?
Kanye West and parts of Keri Hilson and Beyonce. Mr. West speaks to my soul (South Park) and they are incredibly talented and beautiful women.

If you were god, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
End poverty, hunger, and suffering all simultaneously so we can enjoy the beautiful things in this world.

If you could create a new world what would it be like?
A world with Franklin, Breland, Werner, Simon, Doran, Friend, Cryer, and Balkan as Philosopher Kings with beautiful women spanning from all across the world feeding Ramunas, Byron and me grapes.

If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
Poopy breath and sober nights.

What advertising slogan best describes your life?
"He had an awkward moment just to see how it felt." - Dos Equis

If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
Commencement: Seniors you know what I mean.

What movie genre best describes you?
Adventure with a little bit of action and horror.

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
"There is a time and a place for them. The time is never. I'll let you figure out the place on your own." The Most Interesting Man in the World: Dos Equis

If you were a major which would you be and why?
Women's studies. Women are amazing.

If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
Brutal honesty...sometimes mistaken for being mean.

If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?
They don't have this but - African Meat

If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
I would be Hancock without all the connection stuff.

If you were any social space what would it be and why?
The Pub - Chad is the man.

If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
Hmmmm now let me see...

If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?
The Streaking Team – add some color.

What would you say is your most attractive quality?
I unfortunately do not have one of those

What is your favorite physical feature?
Aaahhheeem

If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
Campus Safety.

If you could break one rule for a day and get away with it which would you choose?
Enjoying private rendezvous in not so private places.

What accessory best defines you?
iPhone – ...there's an app for that.

What thing would you give a thumbs up?
Custodians. Brian in Eells is the man.

What thing would you give a thumbs down?
Classes for seniors with two weeks left of this wonderful experience.

Who would you say is your campus crush?
All the beautiful women at Hamilton, you put a smile on my face.

Who would you say is your faculty crush?
Danielle Vegas ... not sometimes like Renaldo, but always. Oh, and of course Lisa Mags.

What's the weirdest thing currently in your room?
It's a tie between a Georgian mini sword from the famous Giorgi Chavleishvili and a shooting target from Phuket, Thailand.

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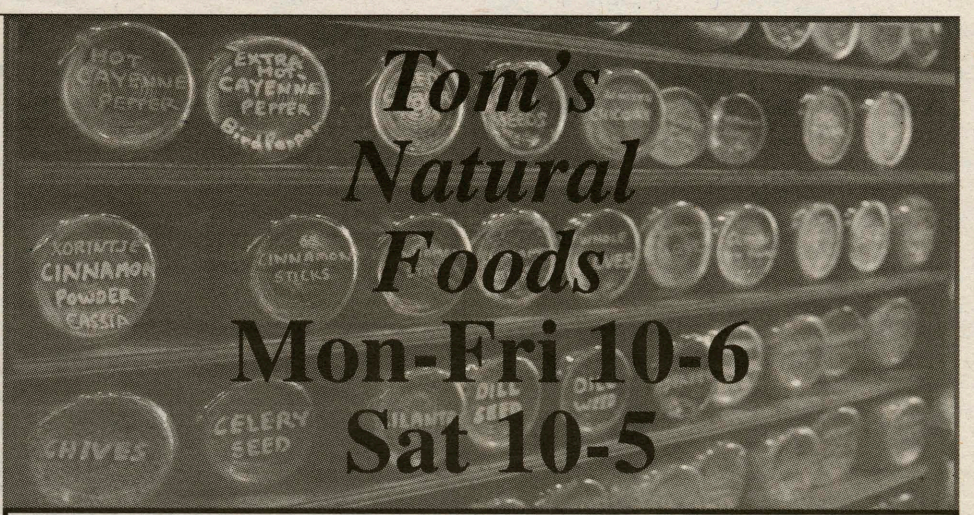
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*** Any questions, contact: Ashley at alanger@hamilton.edu**

Block Party Receives Mixed Reviews

by Matt Nudell '11
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Super Mash Bros and Rjd2 unleashed an ecstatic wave of techno/hip-hop fury to a large audience attending Hamilton College's first-ever Block Party this past Friday night in the Tolles Pavilion, Instead of hosting a traditional rock concert in place of May Day, CAB chose to spice things up by organizing a DJ dance party.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KELSEY LAWLER '11.

Supermash Brothers, above, and RJD2 played in a crowded and steamy Annex on May 1.

First off, the concert's setup had its ups and downs. The stage reminded one quite positively of a European Discothèque club atmosphere, in which strobe lights continuously oscillated and bombarded the audience with majestic, multicolored hues. On the other hand, the front of the stage housed two gigantic speaker stacks that drowned the Annex in an overbearing wall of sound. Many audience members standing right beside the stage later complained that the sound levels were too low, whereas audience members standing by the stacks remarked that the speakers were obnoxiously loud. In addition, Rjd2's set was plagued by a power outage and a 15-minute set-up delay. Also, the event staff sadly ran out of glow sticks before the beginning of the show.

Despite the sound difficulties, Super Mash Bros' hour long set was spectacular, giving students without a doubt the best dance rave of the year. The DJ hip-hop duo, who dubbed themselves as "Girl Talk's Hot Cousin" on the website, adeptly combined popular hip-hop tunes with classic dance songs from the 80's and 90's. Halfway through their first song, a swarm of brave, dance-crazy students mounted the stage to accompany the Mash Bros. The stage would eventually fill up to its maximum capacity with students. Miraculously, the stage did not collapse, as it infamously did during Girl Talk's concert at Colgate last year. The crowd later cheered on the Super Mash Bros to perform two small encores. During Rjd2's set, the crowd even shouted, but in vain, for another Super Mash Bros encore. Remarkably, these two 19-year old college kids, Dick Fink and Nicolas Fenmore (Super Mash Bros), delivered their stellar performance with the aid of just two Mac Pro computers.

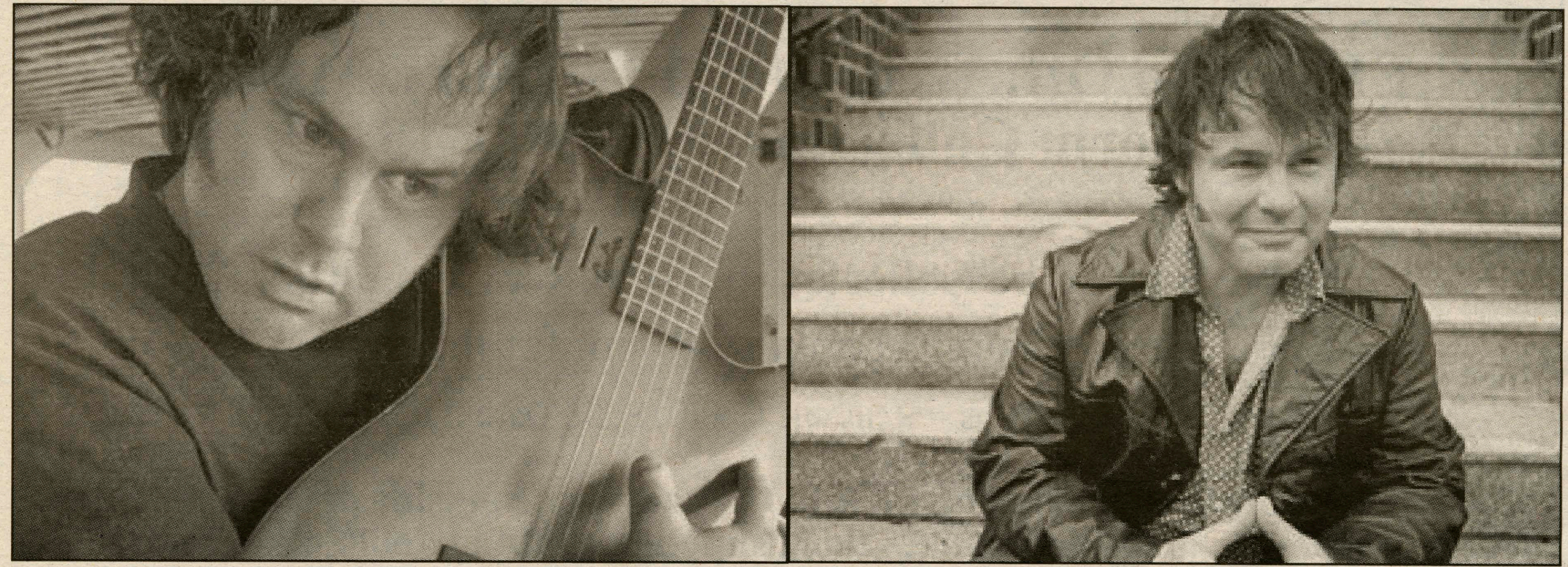
Sadly, the show went downhill after the Super Mash Bros exited the stage. A lot of the audience left during the lengthy set change. More importantly, Rjd2's subtle, mellow hip-hop songs appeared to be too much of an awkward transition from Super Mash Bro's danceable tunes. While Rjd2's hip-hop experimentation was innovative, his set did not feature the fast dance music the audience so desired. Nonetheless, Rjd2 gave memorable live renditions of his hit singles "Since '76," "The Horror," "Since We Last Spoke," and "Ghostwriter." Moreover, the projector screen, which constantly flashed a grab bag of random images, added unnecessary visual chaos and confusion to the already out-of-place set. Even so, it was cool to see Rjd2 master his five turntables via a camera feed that was relayed onto the projector screen.

Overall, to call CAB's Block Party a success would be partially true. The concert's opening act, Super Mash Bros, truly stole the show with an energetic, perfectly linked set of hip-hop tunes. At the same time, Block Party's headliner failed to match the previous set's vibrant euphoria. As a result, Block Party became Bloc Party, in which May Day's Iron Curtain fell into an electronic abyss.

Martin Sexton Makes Acoustic Folk Sexier

by Lexi Nisita '12
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In a genre overflowing with indistinguishable amateurs bypassing creativity in favor of getting laid, acoustic guitarist and lyricist Martin Sexton sets himself apart. His sound is a memorable combination of many influences from traditional country to what can best be described as gospel (check out "Happy" from his most recent album), and his lyrics have a poetic sensibility that is both simple and sweet without being boring or sickening.



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Martin Sexton is influenced by many genres and creates a sound that is fresh and distinctive and that appeals to a range of listeners.

Sexton, who performed on Thursday, April 30, is one of the more commercially successful artists to play Hamilton's Acoustic Coffeehouse series. His untraceable accent and amiable features make him an immediately endearing performer, and his music doesn't disappoint. It is accessible even to listeners who are not normally fans of acoustic music, because it is decidedly unclassifiable in style. He encompasses American folk and grassroots music from coast to coast, and even crosses the Atlantic with a cover of the Beatles' "With A Little Help From My Friends." You don't have to sport a t-shirt tan to like this kind of country music, and city folk won't turn up their noses either. In fact, the only listening requirement is a willingness to feel happy and fulfilled.

Martin Sexton is like a more interesting version of Ray LaMontagne. In fact, he has all the best qualities of many of his contemporaries without any of the muddled strumming and dated lyrical stand-bys. As is the case with most music of his genre, he does not exactly push the envelope in content and lyrics—but in his case, there's no need. Good music, as far as the acoustic soul genre is concerned, has the luxury of familiarity because it worships the everyday and the everyman instead of glorifying celebrity and the exceptional. Lyrically, he thankfully avoids the common pitfall of sappy, dripping romantic clichés in favor of a more metaphorical style. While statements like, "last night I awoke to the sound of a dream on fire" (from the song "Women and Wine") have perhaps more aesthetic value than actual meaning, they are undoubtedly poetic and grant a unique lyrical signature. He is unafraid to mix sounds: whistling, belting, guest appearances and soft crooning can often all be found within the same song. Sexton is a creative guitarist as well. His chords are pure in sound, simple in technique, and remarkably memorable. You won't run into the all-too-common problem of songs that sound like carbon copies until you reach the chorus.

Sexton is a rare artist who breaks the bonds of genre and expectation. Rather than stick to the formula laid in the first few bars, his songs morph in style and sound throughout. His style is personal yet accessible, appealing to all without being dogmatic or preachy. He will surprise you, but never too much and regardless of whether you're letting it all hang out on the dance floor or coveting a picturesque romantic moment, if Martin Sexton's playing in the background you can always expect a good time.

Senior Theatre Projects

As the semester to a close, the senior majors, Romina Memoli, Fessette, Chelsea D'Aprile, Jennifer Mitchell and Silvio Cuadra entertain and move us with pieces about hunger, love, heartbreak and everything in between.

Romina Memoli:

We All Have the Same Story

feminism, want, love

This play, by Franca Rame and Dario Fo, was written and performed in 1978 in support of the Women's Movement in Italy and the reproductive rights cause. It is a one-woman show. I wanted to further explore the interaction between politics and theatre and different styles of performance... such as Commedia Dell'Arte, Storytelling and AgitProp.

It is a comedy! It explores and explains the inefficacy of abortion laws, and gendered discrimination. [This piece was challenging because it is] 35 minutes of non-stop movement, I talk, talk, talk. It is tiring, and I've had to rehearse a lot in order to do it all without dying... I end up sweating buckets!

Chelsea D'Aprile:

From Darkness Into Light

oppression, beauty, courage

***From Darkness Into Light*, by Chelsea D'Aprile, is an original adaptation of *Letters of a Javanese Princess,* a collection of letters written by Raden Adjeng Kartini, a young Javanese woman who fought for women's rights in the early twentieth century. I was very interested in adapting a written work, and after Craig Latrell introduced me to Kartini's letters, I knew immediately that adapting those letters into a play and sharing Kartini's remarkable story with an audience would be perfect.**

I faced the challenge of portraying a Javanese woman; to achieve the Javanese form, I focused on adopting the movement of the Javanese, particularly through dance. I intertwined many dance pieces throughout her play, and also used Javanese gamelan music to further pull the audience into the world of her character. I hoped to create a beautiful play through which the audience would learn the story of Kartini, a feminist of her time who dared to create change in a land that refused to change.

Jennifer Mitchell:

Button Factory

fantasy, norms, fear

***Button Factory* is a thirty-minute absurbist play I wrote about defying social convention. The play exists in a fastasy world where people spend everyday of their lives pushing buttons. Although they don't know what pushing the button does, the workers are afraid to stop. One worker, J23, is the first to question her existence in the factory. She contemplates whether to stop pushing her button and leave the only home she's ever known. The play ends with J23 deciding what course to take.**

Nick Fessette:

The Hunger Artist

desire, sacrifice, creation

In a truly "naked" performance, I plunge headfirst into the soul of the hunger artist and ecstatically emerge drenched in theatrical placenta. Using song, dance and circus tricks, I explore starvation, the human body and what it means to be a performing animal. I authored *The Hunger Artist* based on Kafka's short story and excerpts from Bertolt Brecht, Georg Büchner and Sarah Kane. This is a character about which I feel very deeply. I have sacrificed a lot for him: I have been a vegetarian since the beginning of the year and I'm fasting as much as I can. I've lost over 20 lbs. What first struck me was not the horror or humor of Kafka's story, but the forces that drive the hunger artist's actions; he embodies the profound spiritual dissatisfaction and obsessions which plague us all.

Hillary Fixelle:

She Talks to Beethoven

culture, struggle, dialogue

The play deals with protagonists Suzanne Alexander's and Ludwig Van Beethoven's struggles to cope with loss and to find their places in their respective communities. Set in Ghana in 1961, shortly after the country achieved independence, *She Talks to Beethoven* describes Suzanne's attempts to write a play about Beethoven, all the while awaiting information about her husband's mysterious disappearance. She is visited by Beethoven, and they bond over their similar struggles. Like Suzanne, Beethoven is haunted by the possibility of losing a loved one—in this case, he deals with rejection from his nephew, Karl.

I was particularly drawn to the way that *She Talks To Beethoven* disregards traditional plot structure; it is the poetic flow of the dialogue--not the character's actions--that drives the piece. I also liked how the play defies the time and space continuum.

I sought to communicate Kennedy's belief in the connectedness between African and European identities. I also wanted to highlight the idea that art is a universal medium for personal expression and that it can comfort people during difficult times.

Silvio Cuadra:

Drinking in America

addiction, escape, absurdity

This play is a series of twelve monologues which portray unrelated characters, all of whom are substance abusers. I was drawn to Bogosian and particularly *Drinking in America* because of Bogosian's raw comedic style and subject matter. Bogosian creates these over the top characters that one can't help but laugh at, while at the same time portraying characteristics of people we all know or have met in our own lives. The three pieces I chose to perform—*Wired, No Problems* and *Our Gang*—span the wide range of characters in *Drinking in America* and provide an interesting balance to the performance. In portraying these three very different characters that have very similar habits, I hope to illustrate the use of drugs and alcohol as an escape from one's life and problems while still taking advantage of Bogosian's absurd and hilarious writing.

AppleWagon Releases Self-Titled First Album

by Lauren Moon '10
Features Editor

On Friday afternoon of May 1 the usually quiet happy hour crowd of math professors and Student Activities employees was interrupted by a special live performance from campus staple Applewagon and their following of wayfarer clad, flannel-flaunting groupies. This event marked the release of Applewagon's self-titled first album, comprised of nine original tracks. After various sessions in the studio over the past year, the culmination of the band's illustrious career is on sale now for $10. The album can be purchased on Amazon.com, iTunes as well as Rhapsody, or by contacting the band members.

These six handsomely heady fellas jammed from 5-7 p.m. in the main room of the Little Pub, playing their album in its entirety as well as a few of their fan favorite covers, including Roses Are Free (originally done by Ween) and Needy Girl (by Chromeo). All in attendance appeared to enjoy the show. Concertgoer Alice Popejoy '09 remarked, "The release party was dope, I danced my face off. Even Ellie Wertimer came."

The band agreed that the party went off without a hitch. "The release was a great success," said lead guitarist Sander Doucette '09.

"Yeah," added drummer Phil Tracy '09, "except for all the dirty hippies dancing around the maypole."

Last fall Applewagon received $1,500.00 from The Steven Daniel Smallen Memorial Fund for Student Creativity to help fund recording costs for the album. When asked what led the band, notorious for their live shows, to decide to head to the studio, Tracy simply states, "The question is more: why wouldn't we make a CD?"

Applewagon formed three years ago and started out playing covers in the now infamous former dormitory of 3 College Hill Road. "Some of the first songs we played together were Chameleon (by Herbie Hancock) and Just What I Needed (by The Cars)," said keyboardist Mason Fried '10. Soon after, the band started writing original music. One of the first tracks coined was "Icarus," which is featured on the album. Doucette insists, however, that the band "was making original songs when we came out of the womb."

Charismatic front man Dave Moroney '09 explains that each member has a hand in the song writing process, "All of our originals include representations from everybody in the band."

Being that half of Applewagon's members are upon their final weeks at Hamilton, the band acknowledges that their tenure will soon come to an end. Fortunately, for some lucky eastern New England residents, the majority of the band has made plans to live and play music together over the summer in Newport, RI. Doucette was quick to advertise their busy agenda, including a residency at Billy Goodes restaurant and bar as well as other scheduled gigs.

For most fans, however, their remaining opportunities to enjoy a live Applewagon show are numbered. The boys are set to perform at the Babbitt Pavilion on Class and Charter Day as well as on the steps of the library during Senior Week. With regards to their short time left together in their "hometown," Moroney laments, "We have the three to four year blues," referencing the title of another original song featured on the album.

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Applewagon will play one of their last performances of the year on Class and Charter day.

The band mates went on to reflect on some of their memories of playing together. A true showman, Moroney admitted that at times he has gone through three costume changes during one performance, that is, when he hasn't decided to characteristically bare it all on stage. Last fall Applewagon also had the opportunity to go on tour, hitting up various New England colleges such as Brown and Connecticut College as well as Fried's hometown of Andover, MA.

Each member seems to have their own favorite song to play. Guitarist/bassist Brett Morell '10, a man of many hats, admits he loves to play "Down to Funk," whereas Moroney's favorite is decidedly "PLB." Doucette also cited "Burnin' the Candle," a known crowd favorite.

The band does admit to weathering some setbacks. One such plight can be likened to that of the illustrious mockumentary band Spinal Tap, who endured a succession of drummers after various unfortunate mishaps. Similarly, Applewagon's bassist position is frequently vacated. Although no bass players have suffered any bizarre gardening accidents nor have there been any spontaneous combustions, the inconsistent schedules of college life sometimes leave the group in search of revolving members. One does wonder, however, if it was this mysterious urban legend that caused Morell, originally a bassist, to make the switch to playing guitar recently.

Overall though Dave, Sander, Brett, Phil and Mason, joined by their newest addition, bassist Charlie Kaplan '11, are ecstatic about the success of Applewagon over the past three years. Their righteous experiences together as a band are aptly culminated in the new CD, perhaps Applewagon's last gift to their original fans.

Morell summed it up succinctly by saying, "It has been a cathartic three years. Though the jams are about to cease, the eternal dankness of Applewagon will live on."

In the Watchfires

by Susan Stanton '09
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

In the Watchfires, an original performance piece created by Christian Baxter '10, Chelsea D'Aprile '09, Nick Fesette '09, Romina Memoli Amador '09 and Susan Stanton '09, and directed by Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre, Dustin Helmer '99, will be performed in Minor Theatre on Tuesday, May 12 at 8 p.m.

*In the Watchfire*s is a theatre performance created in partial fulfillment of the Advance Topics in Theatre class. It portrays the very nature of war - the ugliness of defeat and the glory of victory - offering insight into what is attractive and what is repulsive about its causes and its effects. The play is a montage of scenes each inspired by historical texts from around the world, collaboratively developed and theatricalized by the entire class. *In the Watchfires* explores numerous perspectives on war, its perpetrators and its victims through the language of theatre.

In the Watchfires covers a range of topics including celebrating the military, genocides, World War II, assassinations, prisoners of war, the takeover of native civilizations and the Vietnam War. The performers also explore the ways in which war can become a theatricalized experience. Students in the class took important historical documents, images and their own thoughts on war and made them into thought-provoking pieces. The performance is a dynamic piece, which will make the audience laugh, gasp and truly think about their personal experiences with war.

The students will also be performing their piece in a closed performance as part of a Senior Day at a community facility for the Utica Public Housing Authority Resource Center. More than a hundred residents are expected to come and share in this theatrical experience with the students.

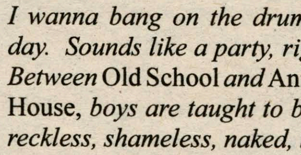
For more information about *In the Watchfires* or to reserve a free ticket, call the Theatre and Dance Office at 315-859-4057.

How Many Lettuce Heads?

by Joshua Hicks '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

School is almost out and what have we learned? Boys will be boys, girls just wanna have fun and my favorite response to work: I don't wanna work; I wanna bang on the drum all day. Sounds like a party, right? Between Old School *and* Animal House, *boys are taught to be as reckless, shameless, naked, loud and obscene as possible. I also want to throw* Grease *on the list since I was just singing "Summer Loving" to one of my friends. Another favorite of mine is* Rock and Roll High School, *which features the Ramones.*

Office Space



If you're in real need of procrastination in the upcoming week, call your buddies, lock your doors, and throw on *Office Space*. Though this film has nothing to do with school whatsoever, it is a fantastic take on how bad work really is for our souls. Think about it! No, you better not. This film gets five out of five Lettuce Heads for a superb depiction of one man's struggle for wealth and love, while dealing with the oppression of the work place. Good luck seniors!

I can't help but think that my own "end is near" and therefore come up with some apocalyptic reviews. Everybody loves it when the earth is on the brink of destruction, right? I never quite enjoyed Waterworld, *though the concept intrigued me. If I had my choice between* Amargeddon *and* Deep Impact, *I would have to ask myself, "do I want Frodo to save the world (again) or Bruce Willis?" There are also plenty of flicks in which humans have the power to bring mass destruction upon ourselves. Take* The Day The Earth Stood Still *(1950's version, don't even think about the recent release), which depicts aliens invading planet Earth because humans threaten the universe with their nuclear power.*

Other alien movies, Species, Signs, *and* Starship Troopers *to name a few, are just terrible. I will say that I prefer* Independence Day *to the* Alien *and* Predator *blood-filled thrillers. Whatever floats your boat, but remember one thing... if you seen green lights, run.*

The Fifth Element

My top "end of the world" movie would have to be *The Fifth Element*, and you can thank my sweetheart for that. After thousands and thousands of years, an evil force in the universe seeks to destroy all in its path, and the only counter attack is the physical embodiment of good (Milla Jovovich), who turns human, learns to speak English and follows Bruce Willis in his taxi cab.

The very talented Gary Oldman (*The Dark Knight*), Chris Tucker *(Rush Hour)* and Ian Holm (from *Garden State* and Bilbo in *Lord of the Rings*) also star in this bizarre, humorous, and action packed flick. I have to give it five out of five Lettuce Heads for its unique style. And by the way, *Armageddon* is the better pick.

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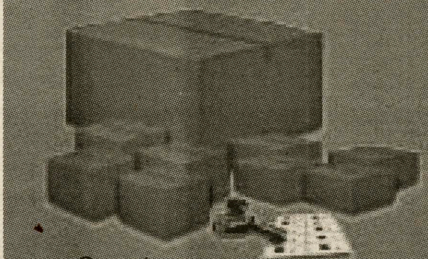

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and Julia Litzky '12
Science & Technology Editors

Even though you may be away from academia over the summer, there are many scientific events worth noting. Particularly, look for developments related to stem cell research. On March 9, President Obama lifted the ban that had been placed on funding such research, reversing former President Bush's 2001 refusal to fund any research on embryonic stem cells beyond certain defined human embryonic stem cell lines. This summer, look for logistics to be worked out and for announcements on what courses this new branch of research will take.

CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) has been delayed again and again, and the current date for power-up is in the middle of September, with the first experiments taking place in mid-October. This summer, look for updates concerning the progress of repairs on the collider, which is key to potentially discovering the elusive Higgs boson and validating the current physical model of the universe, as well as answering remaining questions about a number of unexplained physics-based phenomena.

Even though most will be off the Hill this summer, over 100 Hamiltonians will remain on campus, and many will be conducting scientific research. Notably, students will pursue research on red blood cell fragility with Profs. Nicole Snyder and David Gapp, explore the microdiversity of Green Lake with Prof. Michael McCormick and prepare software to analyze supernovas with Prof. Natalia Connolly, among others. In addition, many students will pursue independent lines of research under Emerson grants.

Additionally, watch the skies for these upcoming astronomy-related events:

May 11: The Space Shuttle *Atlantis* is scheduled to be launched at 2:01 p.m. from the Kennedy Space Center in Orlando, Florida. *Atlantis* will be bringing seven astronauts to the Hubble Space Telescope for a final servicing mission before the Hubble is retired from service. Repairs and improvements will be made to the observatory.

June 13: The Space Shuttle *Endeavor* will be launched at 7:19 a.m. from the Kennedy Space Center and will be delivering part of Japan's Kibo laboratory to the International Space Station (ISS).

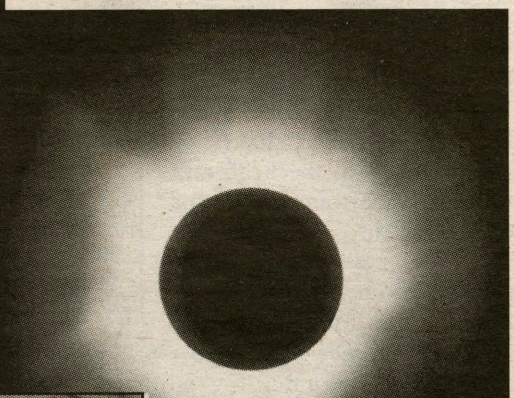
July 7: A penumbral lunar eclipse will occur, which is when the moon passes through the Earth's shadow, causing it to no longer be visible in the sky.

July 27: A total solar eclipse will occur. This is when the sun is fully obscured by the moon's passing between the sun and earth.

WWW.NASA.GOV

The Ares I-X (above) is scheduled for a test flight in late August.

On July 27, a total solar eclipse (below) will occur, when the moon will cross the sun's path, blocking the light.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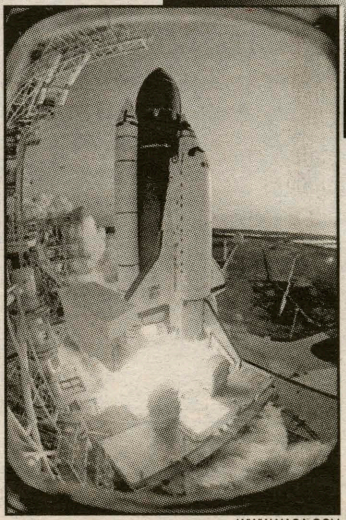

WWW.NASA.GOV

The Space Shuttle *Discovery* (above) is scheduled to be launched on August 6.

August 6: The Space Shuttle *Discovery* is scheduled to be launched from the Kennedy Space Center and will be carrying experiment and storage racks to the ISS. Another penumbral lunar eclipse will also occur on this day.

Late August: The flight test of the Ares I-X is also scheduled for August. The Ares I-X is a new Constellation launch vehicle, a rocket that NASA hopes to use to send future astronauts to space.

New Drug Promises Improved Memory

by Ben Trachtman '12
Science & Technology Writer

A recent study conducted by Dr. Todd Sacktor of SUNY Downstate Medical Center has found a chemical that seems to be capable of erasing long-term memories. The chemical, dubbed ZIP, has been shown in rats to rapidly erase memories when injected into the brain.

Sacktor and his colleagues observed that memories are formed through a process called long-term potentiation, which occurs when brain cells repeatedly stimulate adjacent cells. This repeated activation leads to a strengthening of the connections between the cells and the accumulation of a specific chemical in the activated cells. This chemical increases the sensitivity of the cells that are receiving the signals, and it is this heightened sensitivity that is responsible for the formation of memories. By destroying this chemical, ZIP resets the sensitivity of the cells and effectively erases the memory.

ZIP has obvious therapeutic benefits: it could be used to erase traumatic memories in abuse victims, treat Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in soldiers returning from active duty or even help people break addictions. Alternatively, the knowledge gained about the memory process through ZIP could lead to the production of memory-enhancing drugs. These drugs could potentially be used to treat learning and memory disorders, or even diseases such as Alzheimer's, but they could also be abused for personal gain.

If memory-enhancing drugs became openly available, everyone, students in particular, could feel pressured to take them just to keep up with the competition. Like steroids in professional baseball, they would provide an unfair advantage to users, leaving those relying on their natural memories behind.

Leonard Teng '12 acknowledges the compulsion to take such drugs, but also expresses concerns about the risks involved. "Every drug has side effects," he explains. "If it's not necessary, I wouldn't take it. But if not taking it meant falling behind everyone else, I guess I would feel like I had to." Health concerns about a drug that

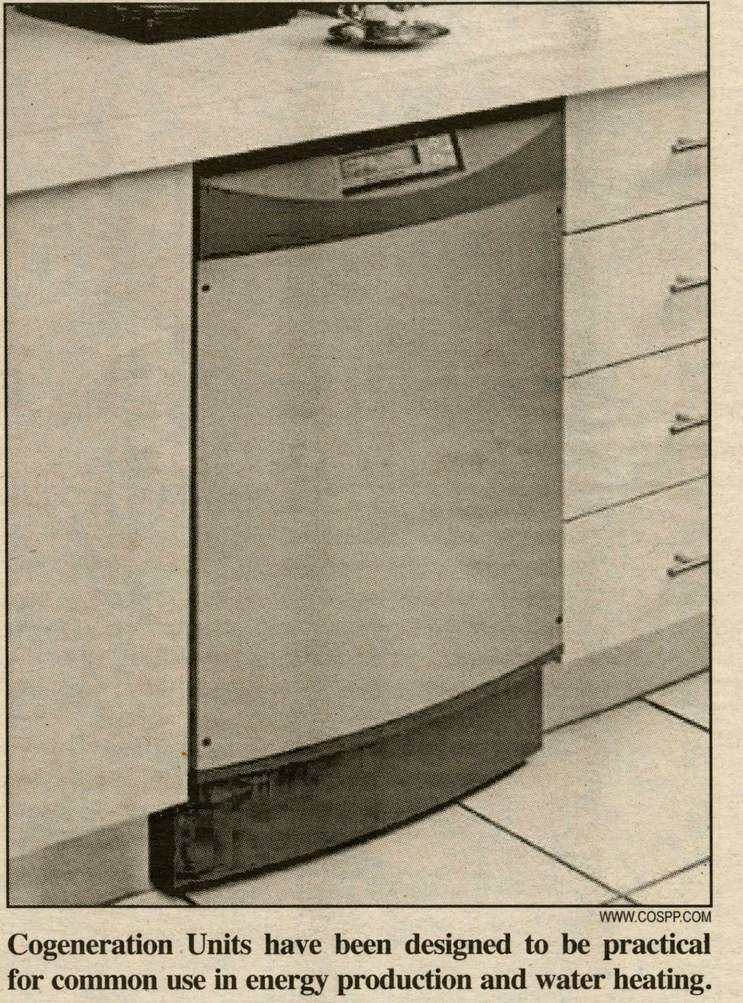
*see **ZIP**, page 17*

Cogeneration: This Ain't Your Daddy's Energy Plan

by William McIvor '12
Science & Technology Writer

"Going Green" is a popular trend both here at Hamilton and in the world at large. On Tuesday, President Obama pledged to the United Nations to take "ambitious actions" in fighting global warming and reiterated his pledge to cut U.S. emissions to below 1990 levels by 2020, a 14 percent decrease.

In trying to do our part in saving the environment up on the Hill, we have had solar panels and a wind turbine installed, we use some geothermal heating, and we organize sexually suggestive campaigns to save energy. The recently concluded "Do it in the Dark" dorm competition successfully reduced dorm energy use this past month by 17 percent, a laudable achievement to be sure, and will certainly help Obama keep his 14 percent pledge. But did you know that there is technology available today with which we could reduce nationwide energy use by almost 30 percent and greenhouse gas emissions by almost 50 percent in a similar time frame? It's called cogeneration, and is considered one of the most promising solutions to the current energy crisis.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Cogeneration Units have been designed to be practical for common use in energy production and water heating.

The energy production and distribution network we have right now is horribly inefficient. Power plants operate at 30-35 percent efficiency, meaning up to 70 percent of the

*see **Cogeneration**, page 16*

Cogeneration Could Reduce Overall Nationwide Energy Use By 30 Percent

*from **Cogeneration**, page 15*

energy they produce is wasted. This is because turning heat energy produced from coal, for example, into rotational energy to produce electricity wastes much of the heat, and long distance transmission of electricity through wires also saps efficiency. Cogeneration, otherwise known as Combined Heating and Power (CHP), is simply the process of generating electricity and also capturing the heat energy that is usually wasted in this process to make hot water or steam to use for heating, vastly increasing efficiency.

Producing both electricity and heating from the same source is much more efficient than the energy production system we have now, but there are some problems in large-scale implementation. Although some countries, such as the Netherlands, have large centralized cogeneration plants, it is hard and inefficient to distribute the heat energy, and efficiency is lost in the transmission of electricity as well. On a smaller scale, several universities, including New York University, are considering using cogeneration to produce their heat and electricity and Massachusetts Institute of Technology has implemented a 10-year, 40 million dollar initiative to do just that. The largest potential for cogeneration, however, is in micro cogeneration, where small, highly efficient units produce both electricity and heat for individual buildings or complexes. If used with something called an absorption chiller, the heat energy can even be used to produce cold water for air conditioning in the summer.

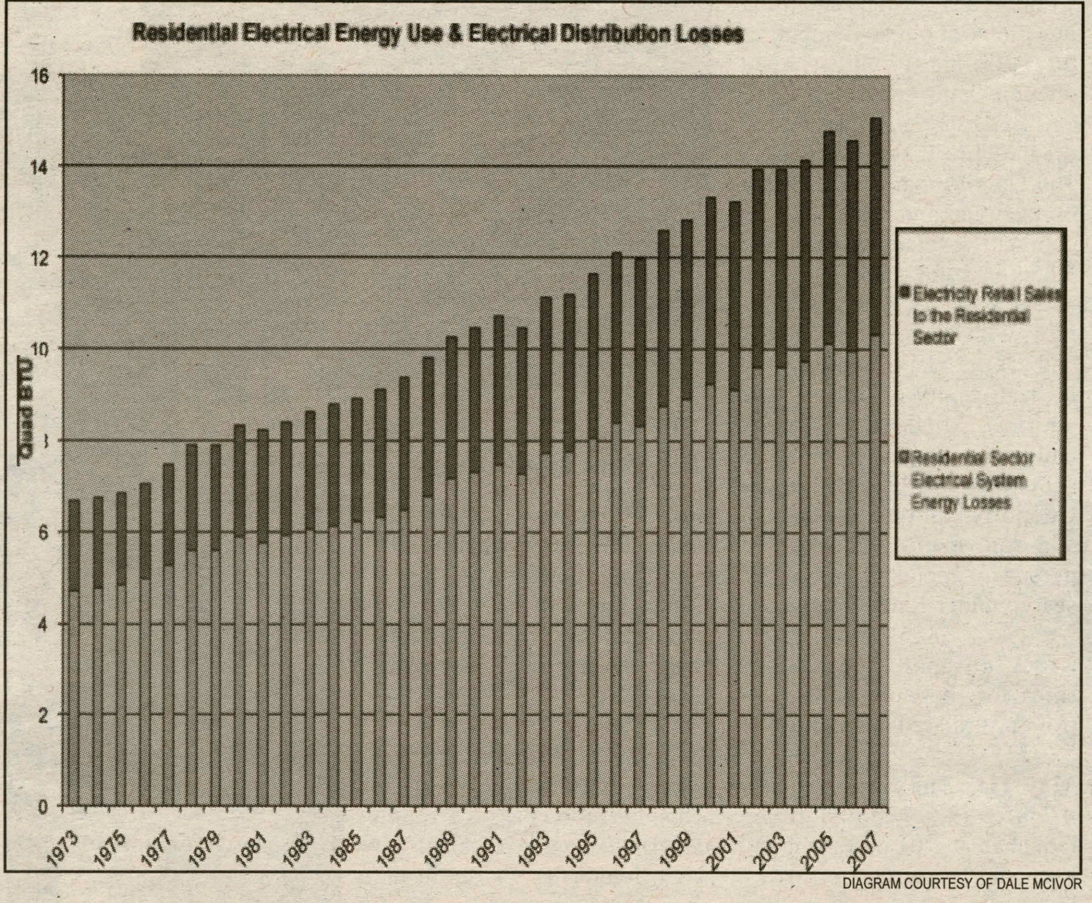


DIAGRAM COURTESY OF DALE MCIVOR

Energy losses have been increasing dramatically over time, as this graph indicates. Researchers hope that cogeneration technology could slow or even reverse this trend.

There are several units on the market already that do this. Most run off of natural gas and operate at 85-98 percent efficiency, a huge increase over current energy efficiency. If almost all of the U.S. energy needs were produced on site using cogeneration operating at only 85 percent efficiency, total energy use would decrease 16 percent and total energy waste would decrease by almost 40 percent. This would allow every coal and nuclear power plant to be shut down. Use of natural gas, which can be produced domestically, would have to increase 63 percent, but would still lead to a 27 percent emissions decrease, or 1,520 million tons of carbon dioxide per year.

After electricity production, the biggest source of energy waste is transportation, which operates at an average of 20 percent energy efficiency. If all-electric vehicles were used, however, and were charged with electricity produced by cogeneration, total energy consumption would decrease 27 percent, total energy waste would decrease by 60 percent, coal and nuclear plants could be shut down, and oil use would be cut by 51 percent. Natural gas use would increase 104 percent, but would still lead to a 45 percent decrease in emissions, or 2,500 million tons of carbon dioxide per year.

The technology necessary to make these changes is available; many well known companies such as Honda and Synertech make micro-cogeneration units and they can easily be installed in place of a hot water heater without the need to retrofit anything in most houses. While they are currently more expensive than a traditional water heater, ranging from $6,000 to $20,000, they will pay for themselves in fewer than ten years in energy savings. The only major barriers to these units being widespread in the market is the lack of knowledge about them and the absence of companies that will actually deliver and install units, but if more people come to realize the potential that cogeneration has, companies will spring up to fill the gap.

At the moment, cogeneration is still based on fossil fuels, namely natural gas, but potential future systems to generate electricity such as fuel cells, nuclear, and solar-thermal still produce waste heat, and cogeneration could be used to make these systems more efficient as well. Given cogeneration's enormous potential not only to quickly and drastically reduce emissions and energy use but also to bolster the future of energy production, it is a technology that needs to see widespread use.

If the government put its weight behind the widespread use of cogeneration, it would be possible to put a unit in every home in 10 to 15 years. Mass production would make units even cheaper and more cost effective, and there is nothing else that needs to be done with this technology except start using it. Given this, next time Hamilton considers a new energy efficient investment, cogeneration should be considered instead of solar panels and wind turbines.

Do It In the Dark Winners Declared

Mac, Keehn Tied With 35% Decrease

17% Reduction in All Dorms' Usage

The Results Were:

REDUCTIONS:

Keehn: 35%
McIntosh: 35%
Milbank: 26%
Babbitt: 23%
Eels: 23%
Saunders: 22%
Wally-J: 21%
Dunham: 18%
Skenandoa: 17%
Carnegie: 16%
Wertimer: 16%
Kirkland: 15%
Bundy: 13%
Root: 12%
North: 5%
South: 5%
Farmhouse: 4%
G-Road 3: 3%
Co-op: 2%
Minor: 2%
G-Road 2: 1%

INCREASES:

Rogers: 1%
Major: 20%
G-Road 1: 35%
3994 Campus Road: 46%
4002 College Hill Road: 50%
100 College Hill Road: 66%

The reduction in energy resulted in 14,000 dollars in savings over the course of the month of April. Congratulations to the winners, who will receive prizes by the end of the year for their efforts in helping the environment.

Have a great summer!

Wacky Facts: Eyeballs

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

- *The human eyeball weighs approximately 28 grams.*
- *Humans can distinguish approximately 500 shades of gray.*
- *The cornea is the only living tissue in the body that does not contain any blood vessels.*
- *Sailors once thought wearing a gold earring would improve their eyesight.*
- *The average person reads approximately 25 percent more slowly off a computer screen than from paper.*
- *All babies are color blind at the time they are born.*
- *Babies also do not produce tears until they are approximately six to eight weeks old.*
- *The most common injury caused by cosmetics is to the eye from a mascara wand.*
- *The average person blinks over ten million times a year.*
- *Although reading in dim light can make your eyes feel tired, it is not actually harmful.*
- *Eagle vision: eagles can see approximately three times farther than human beings.*
- *Having increased peripheral, or corner, vision is directly correlated to reading faster.*
- *The human eye can process 36,000 pieces of information per hour.*
- *The eye uses 65 percent of a person's brain power, the highest of any body part.*
- *The eyes adjust in milliseconds when you move your head in order to keep your vision steady.*

Autism Awareness Month: The Personal Side

Giving the Scientific Facts of Autism Context in the Lives of the Families of Those Affected

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Over the past month, I have covered a number of issues associated with autism. I have explained why autism is a problem in society, and I have explored the associated issues of the discredited MMR vaccine connection and the complexities of savant syndrome. This week, although Autism Awareness Month is officially over, I want to explore what I consider to be the most important issue associated with this disorder: loving a person with autism.

Some readers might be aware that my sister, Grace, was diagnosed with autism when she and I were both small children. I will never be able to express how much growing up with Grace as a sister has changed my life. I was the first person to notice that she was regressing into a world of silence. I asked my mother why my sister no longer wanted to play with me. I hung on doctors' coats asking why she was so different from the playmate I had once had.

As I grew up, I worked many hours with Grace in a padded room, trying to get her to look at me, interact with me, or make a few sounds that sounded like syllables. I was there when she said the first syllables and words of her new life. I was there as she grew and struggled with immense challenges, working for every tiny improvement. In my adolescent mind, I believed that I did all this because I loved her, and I believed that my love would be justified when she was cured.

As my sister grew older, she learned to type. Although slow and laborious, her typing is much clearer than her speech. When I was seventeen, she asked, "Why do you love me?" It is a question almost every sibling asks at one point or another, but with Grace it had a whole new set of connotations: Why do you love me (she seemed to ask) when I have all these things wrong with me? Do you love me for myself, or for the challenge of curing my disorder? I answered that I loved her because she gave my life purpose. She replied, "That is why I am useful. Why do you love me?"

I was not able to come up with a good answer that day, to my everlasting shame. It always takes the longest time, it seems, for people to articulate those things that mean the most to them. I am no exception, and now I feel a responsibility to pass on what I eventually realized: caring about someone based on what they might be does not make sense. It ignores the wonderful things this person already is. We would not say to a person with one arm, "You'll be a great person once you have your other arm." Why would we say to a person with autism, "I love the person you will be once you are cured?"

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

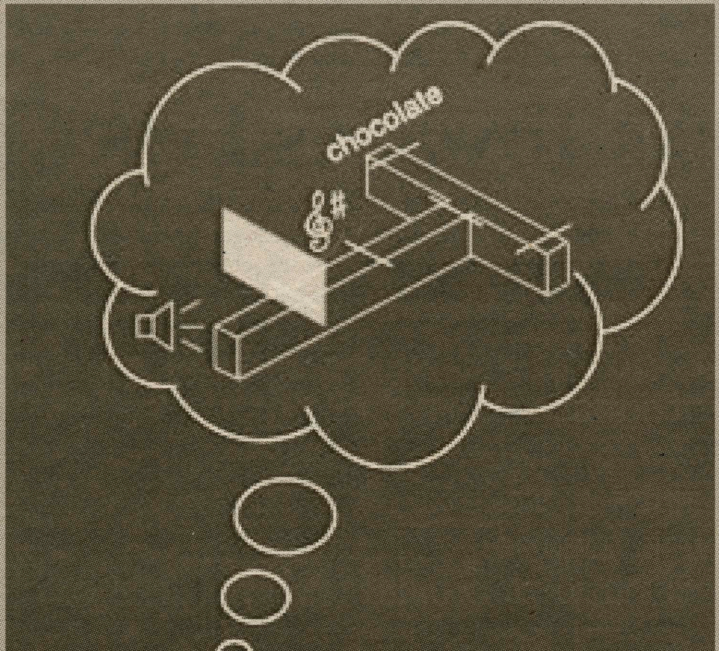
Jen Sadowsky '08 worked with autistic children at the New England Center for Children. Such work can help students understand the implications of the disease.

Love does not need to be justified, nor is it based on ability. It is not based on biological ties. It exists in the fact that my sister and I had spent so much time struggling toward a mutual goal; whether we ever reached that goal was immaterial. Like soldiers in a war, we loved each other because we were both still there. The love of a person with autism is the purest kind of love I know. I can only hope to show the same kind of love back.

At Hamilton, the Upstate Cerebral Palsy (UCP) program, run through HAVOC, allows Hamilton students to work with children with autism. Hamilton also offers a semester-long internship program at the New England Center for Children, offering a more intensive indoctrination. I encourage everyone to volunteer, and to feel the love of a person who, though unable to speak, understands those truths that are unspeakable far better than we, whose lives are cluttered by words, could hope to. Who knows what you might realize.

ZIP Affects Rats' Memories

from New, page 15



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ZIP can affect the memory in rats, and could be used in treatments for human memory and dementia problems.

with the basic molecular foundation of memory are more than valid. Even if side effects are minimal, there could be unseen long-term effects as well.

Despite these recent advances in the field of memory, we are unlikely to see commercially available drugs of this type in the near future; they are still no more than a prospect on the horizon inspired by new research. Even if significant advances were to be made in the near future, the process of developing, testing, and receiving FDA certification for a new drug can take decades.

But the process has begun. A powerful memory-enhancing drug would create millions of dollars in profit for the first pharmaceutical company to successfully create it, and the race is on, regardless of ethical concerns. Drug companies know that breakthroughs in the field of neuroscience, such as the discovery of ZIP, are paving the way for the future of pharmaceuticals.

It is virtually inevitable that memory-enhancing drugs will one day be created. Today's advances in understanding how the brain works will translate into tomorrow's modifications of those processes. The discovery of ZIP, which is just one breakthrough in the booming field of neuroscience, opens doors for an incredible number of possibilities for the future, ranging from new ways to quit smoking to curing Alzheimer's disease to treating PTSD.

Weekly Green Tip

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Over the summer, plant a small garden and grow some of your own fruits and vegetables. Growing a few simple greens can be cheap, fun and rewarding, and it also is much more environmentally friendly than buying vegetables that have been trucked in long distances.

Simple fruits and vegetables to grow include tomatoes, lettuce, and peas. Even if you do not have access to a plot of ground, growing tomatoes and herbs in pots on a porch or balcony can still save money and help the environment.

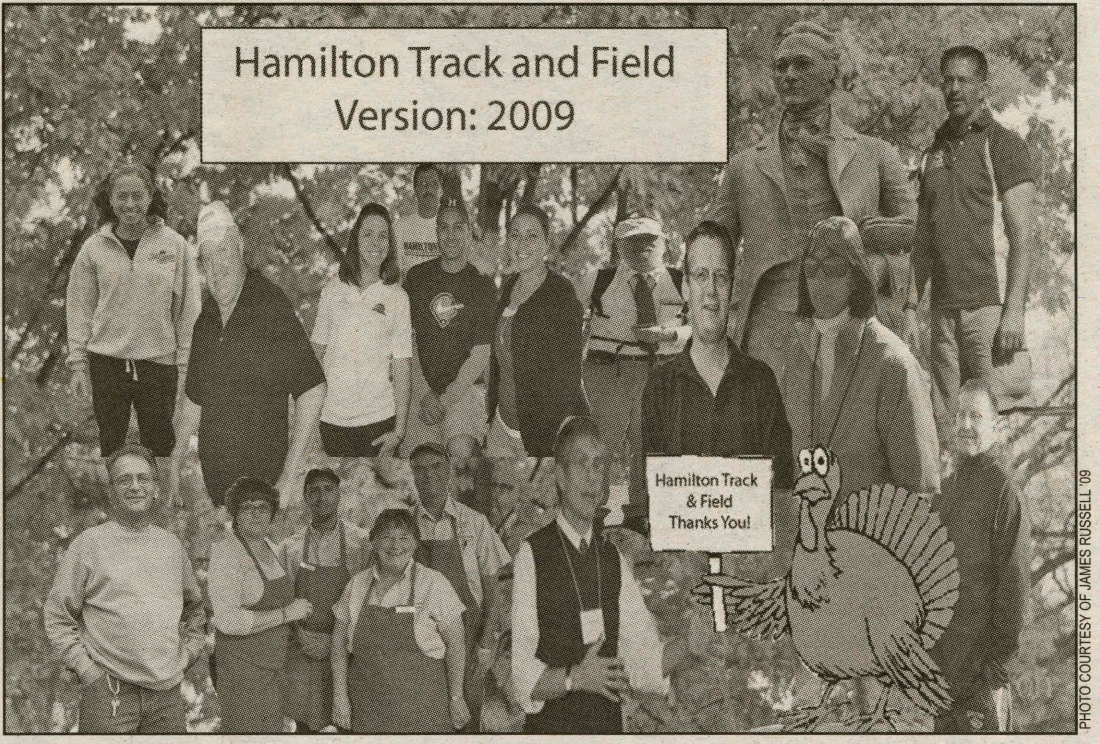
If you are on the Hill over the summer, consider volunteering at the Community Farm. Help is always needed weeding and harvesting. The same can be said for community gardens across the country, so wherever you are, consider lending a hand to local gardening projects.

In addition to helping the environment, honest manual labor is psychologically beneficial and helps lower stress. Plus, the results are delicious!

Track Finishes Last Meet: A Season in Perspective

By James Russell '09 and Scott Bickard '11
Sports Writers

Trying to time a runner's peaking schedule is nearly impossible. Even Olympians, who sometimes temper with this sensitive entity for four years, still may fail. Such is the nature of the beast. The State Championships at St. Lawrence University proved to be a mix bag for the peaking schedules of the Hamilton squad. While some athletes built on their previous performances, others regressed into the depths of track Hell. It was the final meet for those not moving on to Nationals or ECAC's (aka anyone not named James Russell '09, Rebecca Yaguda '09, Kristen Selden '09 and, of course, Peter Kosgei '10). "Just have fun with this one," Coach Hull had said in practice the week before. The team, of course, had been tapering for the last two weeks in the hopes of entering or maintaining their "peek period." The 800-meter relay quartet of Cam Gaylord '09, James Grebey '12, Cuffie Winkler '10 and Kosgei were the first Hamilton athletes to test how well their bodies have held up over the course of the season. For some further intrigue, talks of a school record in the relay had been in the air ever since Russell, Gaylord, and Winkler all dipped sub-2 a few weeks back, and when Kosgei announced his plans to enter the same event. Unfortunately, weather conditions and a mishandled early lead proved to be the downfall for any sort of record chase. However, a 1:50 final split from Peter Kosgei gave them the come-from-behind victory in 7:59 (6 seconds off the record). Luckily for the "boys of 8," their 800-meter "open editions" went much faster. Grebey and Gaylord each set college PRs (1:58.07 and 1:58.75) while Winkler finished in just over 2:01. Had three of them run the same times in their relay splits, in addition to Kosgei's 1:50, the record would have been discarded like an old lover's note. "It's bitter, but it's also sweet," Grebey said.



Track would like this picture to go out to you: the fans and unnoticed contributors heroes.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

Keith Gross '09 and Devon Lynch '11 also tested the resolve of their bodies, this time in the 3000-meter steeplechase. As mentioned in the preview of States last week, Gross was only ten seconds off the #1 seed and felt strongly that he could contend for a top spot, if not the outright win. The race turned out to be more competitive than he realized after a 5:04 first mile, which Gross deemed "the fastest steeple mile split I'd ever run." Still dealing with nagging injuries, he still managed a respectable 10:08 (ninth place). On the women's side, Emily Potter '12 continued her ascent into steeplechase stardom with her second place 12:02 finish. If you're scoring at home, that's All-State and a new PR.

Before Liz Wahl '10 ran her 200m dash, a teammate of mine remarked how nervous she was before the race. Turns out that was the extra edge she needed to run PR's in the 200m and 100m, (26.12 and 12.63 for 4th and 3rd, respectively). In more female star news, Yaguda continued her journey to regain national form by placing 7th in the pole vault.

Sprinter JP Traylor '10 ran the best 200m of his college career (23.61s) and Amir Burk '12, a name we haven't seen much of this season, found himself on the fifth place podium in the triple jump. Indoor Nationals member Tigar Ductan '09 also entered the triple jump for the first time in three weeks and finished 2nd.

It looks like Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 wishes the season spanned a couple more weeks. The sophomore smooth strider has been extremely environmentally unfriendly this season by throwing out her old times and replacing them with new ones each week. Fitzpatrick's new toy was a 4:46 ECAC qualifying 1500-meter run. If she continues this momentum into cross-country, expect a return trip to Nationals.

But the team needs more bodies! So football players/soccer players/any one with a nice set of legs, talk to Coach Hull about running some of the faster events for the team, from the 100 to the 800. You may find yourself an unlikely star. For Grebey and Yaguda, both will have their chance punch their ticket to Nationals on Thursday at the "Last Chance Meet." And then of course, we have Kosgei. He's helped the team so much this year, and unselfishly enters relays to help his other teammates score points. Kosgei has qualified for just about every event in Nationals, which begins in two weeks. He should go largely unchallenged in the steeplechase; however, the 5k could prove to be a highly competitive race.

We've tried to keep this professional up to this point, but, as this is the last Spectator Track Update of the year, forgive us if we lose our sense of professionalism for just one paragraph. We'd like to thank the Spectator for giving us our weekly post. We also usually give our "Grebey's Golden Spike" Award every week to any athlete who has shown great improvement, but this week we would like to give the award to all those people who support us. The coaches are obvious recipients because we would be nowhere without them. The trainers help get our war-torn bodies back out on the track, and the diner crew always makes sure we never go unfed when returning late from a track meet. Ray, our Carnegie custodian, has been supportive all year. He always asks how we've done, plus he keeps the radioactive levels of our bathroom in check. Murph always keeps our gear fresh so we always run in the whitest of T's. Dave, our bus driver, has been driving us to meets ever since we can remember, and he is as much a part of the team as anyone. So, to all of those who make what we do possible: Thank you.

Mike Evans '05 Works Towards Peace in Ireland

Kate Greenough '09
Sports Editor

After spending time abroad, many Hamilton students return to the United States with an enriched global perspective and awareness to international issues, if not a refined taste for gelato or a newfound affinity for obscure techno music. After spending time in Belfast, Ireland, Mike Evans '05, a former Hamilton basketball standout, returned to the U.S.A. with a philanthropic mission: to work towards a solution for the violence and hatred between the Catholic and Protestant populations in Northern Ireland.

At Hamilton, Evans was a leader on former coach Tom Murphy's team, which participated in two NCAA championships and went to the Sweet Sixteen tournament in 2003. After graduating, Evans pursued an international basketball career while working with Peace Players International, an organization that integrates Protestant and Catholic elementary school-aged children through basketball. Looking to reach segregated youth at a more influential age, Evans formed his own traveling team aimed at recruiting 14- to 18-year-old teens to teach them basketball fundamentals.

"Universally, teens don't want to listen to their parents," Evans said. "I wanted to reach out to youth at an age that they understood the religious conflict, could effectively learn communication skills, and would encourage cooperation and respect between Catholics and Protestants both on and off the basketball court."

Evans' organization, Full Court Peace, was developed from the creation and management of his initial team, the Belfast Blazers. The original Blazers squad was comprised of equal numbers of students from Catholic and Protestant high schools Evans had coached for. Evans recruited Hamilton graduate and friend T.J. Reynolds '07 to coach overseas, in addition to two other staff members based in Ireland to complete his staff.

Evans explained that Protestant and Catholic divides in Northern Ireland could be traced all the way back to the 17th century. Today, most hostility stems from long-standing rivalries and dispute over United Kingdom membership. The religious divide is often exacerbated by sports competitions between teams that have long-time affiliations with opposing ethnic and religious groups. Evans explained, "Basketball is a new sport to most of these kids. Other sports, like [soccer] or cricket have polarized teams associated with Catholicism or Protestantism."

Full Court Peace's mission is to bridge the divides between these two religious camps through participation in basketball. To recruit participants, staff members visit high school physical education classes to teach fundamental basketball skills and concepts. "After introducing students to basketball, we encourage them to attend after-school practices, and eventually we bring together a full-time travel team with integrated members," Evans added.

"The players are willing to participate in an integrated basketball program because they see our coaches—vibrant, talented, and enthusiastic—as good role models. The team members trust the coaches and eventually begin to trust each other as team members and friends."

A tremendous success with Irish male youth, Full Court Peace is expanding to include programs for high school girls; the first girls' team is slated to compete in September. Additionally, Evans is travelling to Cuba to explore the basketball community and possibility of extending Full Court Peace to Havana. "Havana is a different situation from what we have seen in Ireland," Evans said. "There is a huge information blackout. The establishment of Full Court Peace would be to encourage healthy competition and enhanced communication skills in a place where communism is the governing political body and can affect self-expression and the acquisition of communication skills."

Although Full Court Peace is poised for global expansion, the Ireland program would always be benefited from volunteer participation and donors. As part of the program, Full Court Peace participants take a trip to the United States where they can learn more about basketball history and "they can see a place where Catholics and Protestants live and cooperate together," Evans said. "We're always looking for a town or community that would be willing to rally around these boys and help promote peace and friendship."

"You really can help make an impact on these boys," Mike said.

After playing for the Blazers and getting to know his new teammates, a former Protestant player said, "I don't think anyone expected us to get on as well as we did; it was a real surprise. But, why should we suffer for a belief that others hold? We just clicked straight away; you would of thought that we had known each other for most of out lives."

For more volunteer opportunities, information on how to contribute to the program, or to find out additional information about the Full Court Peace initiative, please visit www.fullcourtpeace.org or contact Mike Evans at michaelevans@fullcourtpeace.org.

Baseball Finishes With All-Time High of 14 Wins

By Jeff Rudberg '10
Sports Writer

This year's baseball team finished 14-21 overall and 4-8 in the NESCAC. The 14 wins is an all-time high for the Continentals. However, the 35 total games played this year breaks the record of 34 set in 2006. Despite the records, 2009 is the 18th consecutive season without a winning record for the school.

A lack of pitching depth contributed to some of this season's struggles. The 1-2 starting combination of Max Foster '10 and Jakob Saidman '09, with Alex Augustyn '10 in the bullpen, kept Hamilton in many close game this year. Unfortunately, other than these three, no one stepped up as a consistently effective and healthy option on the mound. The lack of pitching depth proved costly in the team's five extra inning games, as all five resulted in Hamilton losses.

The Continental offense, on the other hand, had multiple contributors to their successful season. This year's team scored a run in every single game, until the final contest of the year against nationally ranked SUNY Cortland, They smashed the school record with 221 runs. The previous record, set in 2006, was 182. Hamilton had another aggressive year on the base paths. They stole 50 bases, 7 more than the record setting 43 from last season.

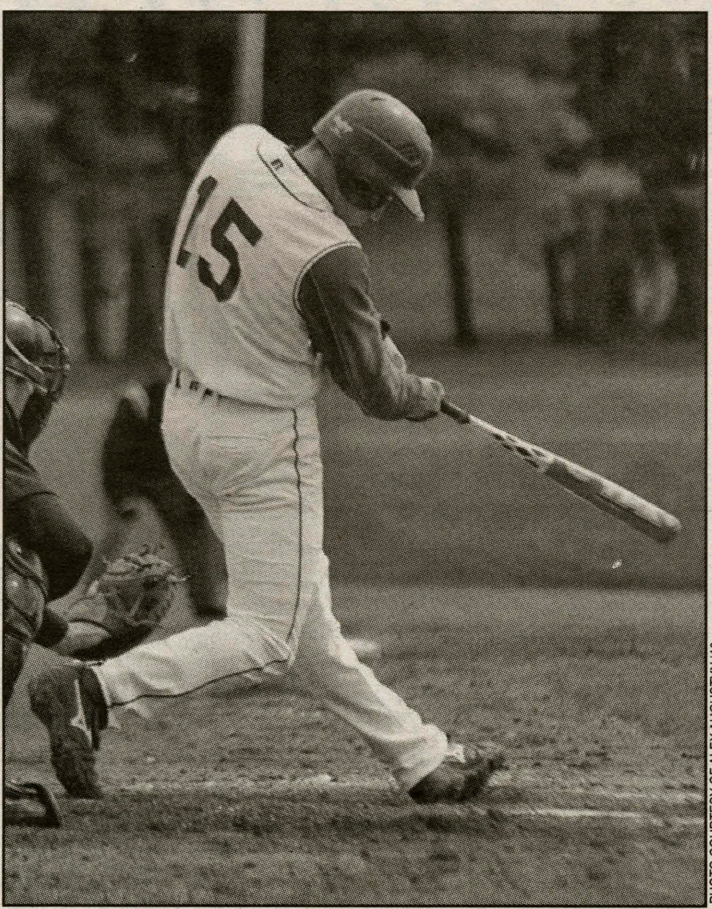


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX AUGUSTYN '10

Joe Buicko '11 (#15) has been a reliable contributor.

In addition to these team records, several individual defensive and offense records changed hands this year. After breaking the career strikeout record earlier in the season, Max Foster tied the single season mark of 62 as well in his final outing of the year. Augustyn set marks on the mound and at the plate. The junior's four saves matches the record for one year and his 14 doubles sets a new single season record. In his first season of college baseball, Sam Choate '12 produced both the school's runs record (30) and the stolen bases record (15).

Perhaps most amazing is this year's teams assault of the single season hits record. Before 2009, no player had equaled John Porges' '07 42 hits in 2005. This year four players, Augustyn (42), Choate (45), Justin Atwood '11 (46), and Wes Mayberry '11(49), either reached or surpassed Porges' previous milestone. Even though the 2009 team played two more games than the 2005 team did, this is a remarkable feat for these four batters. The chase for the first 50 hit season will be tight between these sluggers in 2010, as all four are returning next season.

One of the surprise contributors to this year's team was catcher Pat Gennaco '11. Even though Gennaco played sparingly in 2008 with one start and only seven plate appearances, he quickly emerged as a solid member of the lineup. Gennaco started 20 games this year and finished the season hitting .310 with a team high .444 on-base percentage.

Next year the Continentals lose 4 strong players from this senior class. Ryan Calabrese, Zak Cohen, Saidman, and Gideon Clark each contributed to the 40 career wins in their four years. The 40 wins matches the school record set by the class of 1998, although the class 2009 played in 23 more total games during their four years.

Hamilton baseball will miss each these four players, but perhaps the biggest loss of all is second baseman sClark. The senior captain finished his outstanding career in the school's top 10 in at-bats, hits, runs, and stolen bases.

Although 2009 may not have been as successful as he had hoped, head coach Tim Byrnes completed his third consecutive year of improvement with the team. When Byrnes took over in 2007, he inherited a team that lost all 12 of their NESCAC games the year before. That first season under Coach Byrnes Hamilton won 2 conferences game, followed by 3 wins in 2008, and finally 4 this year. There is no doubt Hamilton College baseball is moving in the right direction.

Hamilton Athletics Records

Men's Athletics:

Baseball
Overall 14-21
NESCAC 4-8

Lacrosse
Overall 3-10
Liberty League 1-5

Tennis
Overall 4-11
NESCAC 0-7

Women's Athletics

Softball
Overall 5-27
NESCAC 1-11

Lacrosse
Overall 14-2
Liverty League 7-1

Tennis
Overall 1-14
NESCAC 0-7

Crew looks forward to ECAC Championship

By Riley Smith '12
Sports Writer

Women's crew upped its game in its last two regattas, performing well against RIT and in the New York State Championships, which were held last weekend. Two weeks ago, the women's Varsity 8 took first place against RIT in a regatta in Rome on the Erie Canal. The boat consisted of coxswain Sophie Breene '12, Kendall Scott '10 at stroke, Allie Boyaris '12, Erika Desmond '12, Spencer Gulbronson '12, Sarah Weatherall '12, Holly Bailey '12, Helen Quigley '10 and Jenn Anderson '10 at the bow. The Varsity 8 crossed the finish line with a 7:03.76 for the 2,000-meter race. RIT followed with a time of 7:19.99. Hamilton's second Varsity 8 "caught a crab" that hurt its time, finishing at 7:36.06. The crab, caused by a rower losing control of her oar, seriously slowed the speed of the boat and made it more difficult to catch up to the RIT crew. The Novice A and B boats finished with times of 7:19.41 and 7:24.40 times, respectively, close behind RIT's wining time of 7:15.11.

This past weekend, the team took the water again, this time on Whitney Point Lake, NY at the New York State Championships, where the women's Varsity 8 finished in a tie for fifth place. Hamilton also won "Most Improved Team" in point standings, which fulfilled Coach Eric Summer's expectations that the young team would be gaining momentum and learning from its experience throughout the year. The first Varsity 8 finished with a 7:10.68 in its heat to qualify for finals, in which it placed sixth with a time of 7:11.14. The second Varsity 8 boat finished fifth with a time of 7:35. Further, the novice 8 finished fourth in the Grand finals with a 7:36.93 and the novice four surprised the team and finished in second place with a time of 8:49.58. This was the last race for the novice four, so securing a silver medal was an excellent way to end their year. Captain Christine Raia '10 was extremely proud of the boat's effort. "They came in second place, winning silver medals and since this was their last race, they couldn't have finished their season any better," said Raia. "They gave that race everything they had; they put it all on the line and have silver medals to show for it." Even Coach Summers commented in practice that the novice four, consisting of Laura Boynton '12 as coxswain, Catherine Florea 11' at stroke, Alice Dannenberg '11, Catherine Prescott '12 and Manique Tallia Murray '12 at the bow seat, had the best race he's seen so far at Hamilton.

The team is now looking forward to the ECAC Championships in Camden N.J., held May 9 and 10 and hopes to approach the championships with the same competitive drive that served as an impetus for the novice four last weekend.

by Ayush Soni '11
Sports Writer

The men's crew team continued their season with first, an individual race versus RIT, and then a strong showing in the New York State Championship.

The Continentals hosted Rochester Institute of Technology on April 25 and came in hoping for a win. Despite coming off a loss against St. Lawrence a week earlier, Hamilton had showed strong improvement as the season continued. The Varsity 8 seemed to have clinched a victory after defeating the RIT boat with a time of 6:18.81 to 6:30.93.

However, before they were able to celebrate, the boat had to race again as RIT called for a re-row due to a Styrofoam cup getting caught in the fin of their boat. The mental and physical burden of having to race again did not fair well with the Hamilton crew, as they fell in the re-row 6:03.93 to 6:22.57.

Unfortunately, after the initial win, the regatta went downhill. Hamilton's Second Varsity 8 lost to both RIT boats and the Varsity 4 was also defeated. While the crews were able to enjoy a great sunny day, only RIT came away feeling good.

After losing to RIT, Hamilton moved on to the New York State Championship, where they fared much better and even won an award. The Continentals raced on both May 2nd and 3 at Whitney Point. Out of 27 teams that raced, Hamilton College came in fifth place and won the Most Improved Team prize after marking up 65 points. That points total also put them in a tie with St. Lawrence, who the team lost to two weeks earlier. The weekend was especially great for the Second Varsity 8.

After a relatively disappointing season, the boat performed very well at States, coming in fourth overall. Scot Bixby '11 coxed the boat and the rest of the lineup from stroke Rafael De La Rosa '12 at Matt Seaman '12, Matt Poterba '12, Adam Minchew '12, Ian Thresher '12, Sam Hinks '11, Andre Zakoworotny '11, and RD Eisenhart '11.

Unfortunately, the Varsity 8 was not as competitive as they would like to have been. After racing very well throughout the season, the boat came in only 11th overall. Ricky Bottini '10 was the coxswain for the Varsity 8. The rest of the boat from stroke was Gibson Hoyt '12, Ben Sholl '09, Jeff Cardoni '11, Willy Cowles '09, Jonathan Wilson '09, Chris Visentin '12, Andre Matias '11, and Tim Belden '10.

Despite some disappointing results in the last two weeks, Hamilton showed flashes of success and potential. This week's upcoming ECAC will determine the season for the boats and if they do well, previous failures will mean nothing.

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Lacrosse Wins Third Straight Liberty League Title

By Melissa Nezamzadeh '11
Sports Writer

Women's lacrosse has done it again. They are Liberty League champions for the third consecutive year, second seed in the NCAA Division III tournament, and nationally ranked No. 8. To some it may have seemed easy, but the women faced off against Union, top seed in the Liberty League and No. 6 nationally, in regular season before making it to the Liberty League playoffs. As many of the players anticipated a good game against Union on April 24, none expected the outcome they received: a loss of 15-4. Union came out strong with more shots per period, more ground balls per period, and the least amount of turnovers per period.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE MAREK '09

(L-R) Seniors Elizabth Benjamin, Kate Marek, Catie Gibbons and Kaillie Briscoe with Coaches Rippey and Kloidt.

Nonetheless, the women earned a spot in the Liberty League playoffs that took place this past weekend. In the semifinals, the Continentals were up against William Smith. In regular season, the game was very close and went into overtime, but Hamilton proved to be better with a win of 8-7. When they faced them again, on May 1, the women were ready and beat them 14-8, placing Hamilton in the finals where they would play Union again.

It was cloudy in Schenectady, NY on May 2 and the women were facing off against the team they had lost horribly to just the weekend before. The game proved to be a test of skill and determination. It boiled down to who wanted it more: Union or Hamilton. Kate Marek '09 of Hamilton scored the winning shot 2:49 into overtime in a low scoring game, 4-3. In addition to a win, Liz Rave '10 won Tournament Most Valuable Player, and Kate Fowler '10, Kaillie Briscoe '09 and Liz Benjamin '09 were named to the all-tournament team.

Coach Patty Kloidt commented saying, " I am proud of my team for not dwelling on the first loss and losing our chance to the host the tournament for the third straight year. They could have kept thinking about that game but instead, we moved on and focused on our preparation to win the tournament."

Union has been a consistent opponent in the Liberty League championships for the past four years, and since 2007, the Continentals have succeeded in defeating them. As a result of their win last Saturday, the women received a first round bye in the 2009 NCAA tournament that will take place this weekend in Waterville, Maine at Colby College. They will still travel to ME to play the winner of the Williams College and Endicott College game on Saturday, May 9.

Coach Kloidt expressed her excitement and added, "I am proud of them [the women] for mentally and physically preparing themselves…It paid off. Everything works out and we are better by struggling through the adversity of last week and working hard to fix some things that could help us compete better."

The whole team is excited and cannot wait to play in the NCAA tournament to defend their national championship. They have most certainly worked hard to get to where they are now. With a regular season record of 14-2, Hamilton will enter the NCAA Division III tournament as the No. 1 team. Everyone back here at Hamilton wishes you the best of luck and knows that you guys can and will come home as national champions for the second consecutive year. Just remember to have fun!

Men's Golf Shows Promise By Finishing Third

By Ronald Wai '10
Sports Writer

A vailiant effort by the Continentals saw them finish third at the four team New England Small College Athletic Conference last week, with a 616 team score from the 36 hole course. We caught up with captain Jeff Corbett '09 and Coach Al Highducheck to ponder over what has been a largely successful season.

Q: Any thoughts on our performance at the NESCAC? Where did we perform well and where not so well?

Corbett: As a team I thought we did really well at NESCAC. We missed going to NCAA by only three shots and our freshman really stepped up to the occasion. If the blame for us not winning can be placed anywhere, it has to be on my shoulders. I had probably my worst round as a college golfer the first day while everyone else on the team did well.

Coach Highduchek: Overall I thought we played as a team close to about as well as we could. I think we were the surprise team of the four team event. I base that on the relative performances between last weekend and the fall qualifier, which was also held at Middlebury and qualified the four teams at Middlebury last weekend to be there. Last weekend had tough weather conditions with a 20 to 30 mph wind both days and on day two the wind direction changed 180 degrees making it play like a different course. Middlebury and Williams were 20 strokes higher in the spring versus their fall scores in the NESCAC qualifier and Trinity was 19 strokes higher, so I would judge the course played about 20 strokes harder (for the total team score). We were only 10 strokes higher than the fall and improved quite a bit versus each of the other three.

Q: Team member Brad Roche '11 said last time that we started well but lacked the closing touch to kill teams off. Did we improve in this respect?

Corbett: We did really well on the second day. We had the same score as the first day in much more difficult conditions. This has been a little bit of a problem of ours all season long but was not the case last weekend, I know every one on the team was happy with how things went the second day aside from us not winning.

Q: Which teams impressed the most at the tournament? Or perhaps surprisingly underperformed? I wrote last time that Trinity was the team to look out for. Was I right, and did they live up to my hype?

Corbett: It was a really close tournament as expected. Middlebury had a couple guys really careeer it on the second day and was able to pull away with it. While I wouldn't say Middlebury was the strongest team in the field, having a home course advantage really helped them out a lot. Trinity was probably the most talented of the four teams and played relatively well over the weekend, but was just edged out. Williams was probably the most disappointed of the four teams, they held the lead after round one but really fell off on the second day.

Highduchek: Middlebury used the home course advantage that they earned by winning the fall qualifier, just the way in which you should. Trinity, which has been in the top 25 in the country all spring in the coaches poll, is arguably the best team in the conference and the loss on tiebreaking was a heartbreaker for them. Although we played well on the second day, both of those teams closed a little stronger than we did.

Q:That was the last event of the season. With three seniors graduating and only one junior on the roster this season, next season's squad will have a pretty youthful look. Any thoughts on what next year's team should look out for?

Corbett: We are defiantly losing some of our core next year ,but I believe the team will still be strong. There are a couple guys on the team who didn't play in very many tournaments this year, but have real potential. Also our freshmen had great years and showed they can compete at the college level. Also Roche is one of the best, if not the best, players in NESCAC and I expect him to have another great season next year.

Highduchek: There is no way to replace the three graduating seniors from this year's team and the contributions they've made this year and throughout their careers here. However, three of the five who played at Middlebury are returning. We only have one new freshman coming in the fall, so we're going to need everyone to pick up their games a little bit if we are to have a successful season next year. Any good tournament golfers on campus that we don't know about are welcome to express their interest!

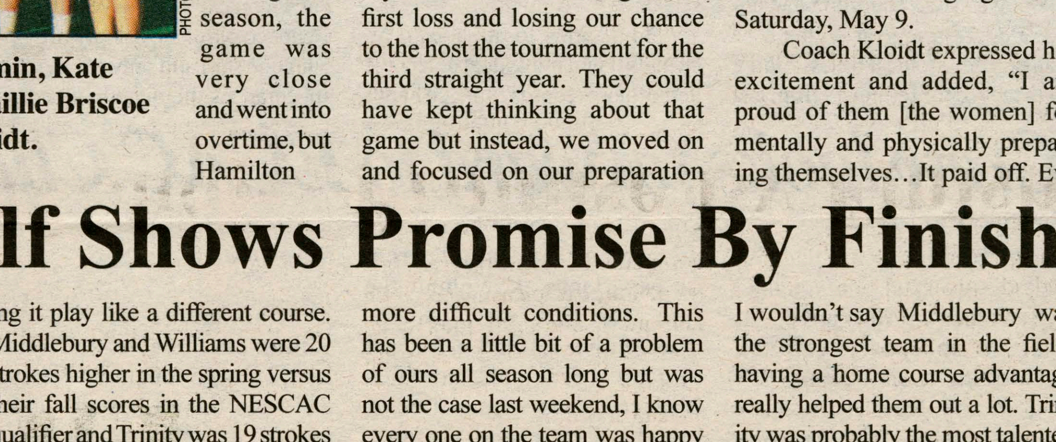
PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF CORBET '09

Men's golf finishes a successful season with third place in NESCAC Championship.